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ABSTRACT

This document contains statements and correspondence addressed to a Senate hearing on the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs chaired by Senator Henry M. Jackson. This hearing concerned a bill to amend the Youth Conservation Corps Act of 1972 (Public Law 92-597, 86 Stat. 1319) to expand and make permanent the Youth Conservation Corps. The original Youth Conservation Corps provided 6,000 youth during 1970-1972 with summer jobs. Based upon the success of the program, a bill to make the Corps a permanent organization was considered by this Senate committee. (KP)

ED 085488

TO EXPAND AND MAKE PERMANENT THE YOUTH CONSERVATION CORPS

CE

HEARING

BEFORE THE

COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS UNITED STATES SENATE

NINETY-THIRD CONGRESS

FIRST SESSION

ON

S. 1871

A BILL TO AMEND THE YOUTH CONSERVATION CORPS ACT OF 1972 (PUBLIC LAW 92-597, 86 STAT. 1319) TO EXPAND AND MAKE PERMANENT THE YOUTH CONSERVATION CORPS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

JULY 25, 1973

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TO EXPAND AND MAKE PERMANENT THE YOUTH CONSERVATION CORPS

WEDNESDAY, JULY 25, 1973

U.S. SENATE,
COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
Washington, D.C.

The committee met, pursuant to notice, at 2 p.m., in room 3110, Dirksen Office Building, Hon. Henry M. Jackson, chairman, presiding.

Present: Senators Jackson [presiding], Haskell, Hatfield, and McClure.

Also present: Jerry T. Verkler, staff director; Porter Ward, Denny Miller, and Doug Smith, professional staff members.

The CHAIRMAN. The committee will come to order.

OPENING STATEMENT OF HON. HENRY M. JACKSON, A U.S. SENATOR FROM THE STATE OF WASHINGTON

The purpose of today's hearing is to receive testimony on S. 1871, a bill I introduced on May 23, 1973, to expand and make permanent the Youth Conservation Corps. I have been joined by 16 of my colleagues in cosponsoring this measure.

S. 1871 expands the Youth Conservation Corps Act of 1972 from its very modest and temporary status to a full-scale permanent youth and natural resources conservation program. It expands the existing Youth Conservation Corps program to provide employment for up to 150,000 young men and women each year, and also enables the States to benefit more fully through a cost-sharing arrangement with the Federal Government for operation of the Youth Conservation Corps on State lands by State agencies.

In February 1969 I sponsored in Congress original legislation (S. 1076) which became public law in 1970 and established a 3-year pilot Youth Conservation Corps program for young men and women between the ages of 15–18, and from all social, economic, and racial backgrounds. During the first 2 years of operation, approximately 6,000 youths were provided with summer jobs in the Youth Conservation Corps. Another 3,500 youths from all 50 States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and American Samoa will be employed this summer on lands administered by the Department of the Interior.

Based upon the success of the first year's program, last Congress, I introduced S. 2454, a bill nearly identical to S. 1871. S. 2454 passed the Senate on May 23, 1972 and became Public Law 92–597 late in 1972. Unfortunately Public Law 92–597 extended the Youth Conservation

Corps program only through the summer of 1974 and limited the authorization for appropriation to $60 million. The measure we are holding hearings on today is designed to remedy the situation we now face—the Youth Conservation Corps program will die an untimely death in 1974 unless we act expeditiously.

I should point out that the time I first held hearings on the Youth Conservation Corps program, back in 1969, the administration witnesses from the Department of Labor, Department of Inetrior, Department of Agriculture as well as the Office of Management and Budget and the Office of Economic Opportunity, all opposed enactment of my legislation. They argued that putting young people out in the field to do construction work was not a sufficient priority to warrant enactment of legislation at the time. They felt that the summer was all too short a time period to accomplish anything meaningful.

The success that this program has achieved has been attested to in independent evaluations conducted each year by the Institute of Social Research, of the Survey Research Center of the University of Michigan. In their findings on last summer's program they indicate that 98.6 percent of all youths who participated believed that their experience was worthwhile, only 4 percent of those enrolled failed to complete the program. When you compare these statistics with other youth programs it is clear that the Youth Conservation Corps has been a tremendous success. But these are not the important figures. What did they learn? What did they do that made their experience so worthwhile? An evaluation of the Youth Conservation Corps by the University of Michigan concludes that youth gains in environmental understanding and awareness from their Youth Conservation Corps experience are equal to 1 full academic year of study in a normal high school setting. Through their efforts last year, the 3,500 young people accomplished $2.7 million worth of improvements to our natural resources. In the first 2 years of this program nearly every dollar we have appropriated has been returned to us in the form of direct improvements to our natural resources.

I should point out that in the first summer and with little publicity, the Department of the Interior received over 80,000 applications for the 1,100 jobs that were available in the program that summer. The other agency responsible for administering the program, the Department of Agriculture, received an average of 400 applications for every one position available in one region of the United States.

Judging from the program's success thus far, it is my hope that the administration will reevaluate their stand and support this legislation. This legislation when enacted will make the Youth Conservation Corps a permanent part of our national scene. We must have a permanent program, because there is a permanent need. It is apparent that the problems of our environment, the need for clean air and water, and the need to develop and protect our natural resources are not going to disappear. Nor is the need of our young people going to disappear—a need for meaningful employment which provides them with the kind of knowledge and understanding which cannot be achieved in a school room, but must be obtained through first hand experience and work. Indeed these needs are going to become more acute as time progresses.

The last point I wish to make is that this program brings together young people from all social, economic, and racial backgrounds in a

common effort from which they take away a far better understanding of each other and themselves—a far better appreciation of what it means to be an American, to be a useful productive citizen.

I direct that the bill and departmental reports appear at this point in the record.

[The text of S. 1871 and departmental reports follow:]

[S. 1871, 93d Cong., 1st sess.]

A BILL To amend the Youth Conservation Corps Act of 1972 (Public Law 92-597, 86 Stat. 1319) to expand and make permanent the Youth Conservation Corps, and for other purposes

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Act of October 27, 1972 (86 Stat. 1319) is amended to read as follows:

"POLICY AND PURPOSE

"SECTION 1. The Congress finds that the Youth Conservation Corps has demonstrated a high degree of success as a pilot program wherein American youth, representing all segments of society have benefited by gainful employment in the healthful outdoor atmosphere of the national park system, the national forest system, and other public land and water areas of the United States, and by their employment have developed, enhanced, and maintained the natural resources of the United States, and whereas in so doing the youth have gained an understanding and appreciation of the Nation's environment and heritage equal to one full academic year of study, it is accordingly the purpose of this Act to expand and make permanent the Youth Conservation Corps and thereby further the development and maintenance of the natural resources of America's youth, and in so doing to prepare them for the ultimate responsibility of maintaining and managing these resources for the American people.

"YOUTH CONSERVATION CORPS

"SEC. 2. (a) To carry out the purposes of this Act, there is established in the Department of the Interior and the Department of Agriculture a Youth Conservation Corps (hereinafter referred to as the 'Corps'). The Corps shall consist of young men and women who are permanent residents of the United States, its territories, possessions, or trust territories, who have attained age fifteen but have not attained age nineteen, and whom the Secretary of the Interior or the Secretary of Agriculture may employ without regard to the civil service or classification laws, rules or regulations, for the purpose of developing, preserving, or maintaining the lands and waters of the United States.

"(b) The Corps shall be open to youth of both sexes and youth of all social, economic, and racial classifications with all Corps members receiving compensation consistent with work accomplished, and with no person being employed as a member of the Corps for a term in excess of ninety days during any single year.

"SECRETARIAL DUTIES AND FUNCTIONS

"SEC. 3. (a) In carrying out this Act, the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture shall—

"(1) determine the areas under their administrative jurisdictions which are appropriate for carrying out programs using employees of the Corps;

"(2) determine, with other Federal agencies, the areas under the administrative jurisdiction of these agencies which are appropriate for carrying out programs using members of the Corps, and determine and select appropriate work and education programs and projects for participation by members of the Corps;

"(3) determine the rates of pay, hours, and other conditions of employment in the Corps, except that all members of the Corps shall not be deemed to be Federal employees other than for the purpose of chapter 171 of title 28, United States Code, and chapter 81 of title 5, United States Code;

"(4) provide for such transportation, lodging, subsistence, and other services and equipment as they may deem necessary or appropriate for the needs of members of the Corps in their duties;

"(5) promulgate regulations to insure the safety, health, and welfare of the Corps members; and

"(6) provide to the extent possible, that permanent or semipermanent facilities used as Corps camps be made available to local schools, school districts, State junior colleges and universities, and other education institutions for use as environmental/ecological education camps during periods of nonuse by the Corps program. Costs for operations, maintenance, and staffing of Corps camp facilities during periods of use by non-Corps programs as well as any liability for personal injury or property damage stemming from such use shall be the responsibility of the entity or organization using the facility and shall not be a responsibility of the Secretaries or the Corps.

"(b) Whenever economically feasible, existing but unoccupied Federal facilities and surplus or unused equipment (or both), of all types, including military facilities and equipment, shall be utilized for the purposes of the Corps, where appropriate and with the approval of the Federal agency involved. To minimize transportation costs, Corps members shall be employed on conservation projects as near to their places of residence as is feasible.

"(c) The Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture may contract with any public agency or organization or any private nonprofit agency or ogranization which has been in existence for at least five years for the operation of any Youth Conservation Corps project.

"GRANT PROGRAM FOR STATE PROJECTS

"SEC. 4. (a) The Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture shall jointly establish a program under which grants shall be made to States to assist them in meeting the cost of propects for the employment of young men and women to develop, preserve, and maintain non-Federal public lands and waters within the States. For purposes of this section, the term 'States' includes the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, and American Samoa.

"(b)(1) No grant may be made under this section unless an application therefor has been submitted to, and approved by, the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture. Such application shall be in such form, and submitted in such manner, as the Secretaries shall jointly by relation prescribe, and shall contain—

"(A) assurances satisfactory to the Secretaries that individuals employed under the project for which the application is submitted shall (i) have attained the age of fifteen but not attained the age of nineteen, (ii) be permanent residents of the United States or its territories, possessions, or the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, (iii) be employed without regard to the personnel laws, rules and regulations applicable to full-time employees of the applicant, (iv) be employed for a period of not more than ninety days in any calendar year, and (v) be employed without regard to their sex or social, economic, or racial classification; and

"(B) such other information as the Secretaries may jointly by regulation prescribe.

"(2) The Secretaries may approve applications which they determine (A) meet the requirements of paragraph (1), and (B) are for projects which will further the development, preservation, or maintenance of non-Federal public lands or waters within the jurisdiction of the applicant.

"(c)(1) The amount of any grant under this section shall be determined jointly by the Secretaries, except that no grant for any project may exceed 80 per centum of the cost (as determined by the Secretaries) of such project.

"(2) Payments under grants under this section may be made in advance or by way of reimbursement and at such intervals and on such conditions as the Secretaries find necessary.

"(d) Thirty per centum of the sums appropriated under section 6 for any fiscal year shall be made available for making grants under this section for such fiscal year.

"SECRETARIAL REPORTS

"SEC. 5. The Secretary of the Interior and Secretary of Agriculture shall annually prepare a joint report detailing the activities carried out under this

Act and providing recommendations. Each report for the preceeding program year shall be submitted concurrently to the President and the Congress not later than April 1 of each year.

"AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS

"SEC. 6. There are authorized to be appropriated, and made available to the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to carry out the purposes of this Act, amounts not to exceed $150,000,000 for each fiscal year. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, funds appropriated for any fiscal year to carry out this Act shall remain available for obligation and expenditure until the end of the fiscal year following the fiscal year for which appropriated."

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,
Washington, D.C., July 24, 1973.

Hon. HENRY M. JACKSON,
Chairman, Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,
U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Your Committee has requested the views of this Department on S. 1871, a bill "To amend the Youth Conservation Corps Act of 1972 (Public Law 92-597, 86 Stat. 1319) to expand and make permanent the Youth Conservation Corps, and for other purposes."

We recommend against the enactment of this bill in its present form.

S. 1871 would amend the "Youth Conservation Corps" Act of 1972 to authorize annual appropriations in the amount of $150,000,000 for the "Youth Conservation Corps" (YCC) established within the Departments of the Interior and Agriculture. It would further amend the 1972 Act by authorizing the Secretaries of these two Departments to establish jointly a permanent program for grants-in-aid to the States to assist them in the meeting of costs of projects conducted by YCC members within those States. S. 1871 would also authorize the Secretaries to determine, with other Federal agencies, the areas under their jurisdiction which are appropriate for conducting programs with YCC members, thus permitting work to be performed on all Federal lands as well as those under the administrative jurisdiction of the Interior and Agriculture Departments.

The Department of the Interior has been pleased with the progress of the YCC pilot program the last two years. This summer, we are jointly operating, with the Department of Agriculture, 102 camps accommodating over 3,500 young men and women from all of the 50 states, the District of Columbia, American Samoa, the Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico. Most of these camps are residential and coeducational.

The progress of the program to date relates directly to the recognition by the Congress that a well-planned and deliberate approach was necessary in order to design and implement an effective program at reasonable costs. Such an approach was also necessary to overcome the inevitable administrative and operational problems which will occur in any new program, and to evaluate the program from actual experience. A University of Michigan Institute for Social Research analysis indicates that more evaluation is needed before a comprehensive, full scale YCC effort is considered. For example, in its evaluation of the 1972 Youth Conservation Corps, the University recommended that further research be conducted on the length of camps, the residential nature of camps, the long-range impact on and value of the program for Corps members, and the special needs of American Indians and black youth which are not being met by the YCC program. The report also indicated that the educational aspect of the program needs additional administrative attention to assure that the YCC program is offering a fully integrated work-learning experience.

In view of this experience, during the past two years, and the need for further experience and evaluation, we do not recommend passage of this proposed legislation at a permanent annual funding level of $150,000,000. As you know, Public Law 92-597 authorized $60,000,000 for the YCC program for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1974. We believe that this existing law provides more than sufficient fiscal flexibility for expanding the current program. We, therefore, recommend that future authorization levels be for "such sums as may be necessary". How-

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ever, if the Committee feels that this program should be continued at the current level of $60,000,000, the Department would have no objection.

In the fiscal year 1974 program, funds will be available for State grants on a pilot basis. This new aspect deserves the same careful study and development as was provided in the pilot YCC program. Accordingly, we recommend that this State grant program not be made permanent as contemplated in S. 1871, but rather, be continued on a pilot basis.

We believe that the immediate expansion of the current program to the annual level proposed in S. 1871 would seriously dilute the program quality and create administrative and operational difficulties. As a result, we would run the risk of failing to meet the hopes and expectations of the YCC program, its administrators and the participating young people.

Also, we believe it is necessary to continue the evaluation of the program's effectiveness. Therefore, we believe that the continuation of the program should be based on the recognition that its level of funding and, for that matter, its continued feasibility may change over time. Some of the questions which we believe merit continuing examination and consideration are, determining: (1) long term effects on knowledge, attitude, etc. of participants several years after the fact; (2) most effective kinds, size, and length of camps; (3) comparative effectiveness of the educational aspects of YCC; (4) the best ways to assure objective approaches to educational parts of the program; (5) what salary is required to obtain participation; (6) to what extent can work done by YCC manpower be limited to work which would otherwise be highest priority agency needs; and (7) what the costs of YCC work would be if obtained by customary means.

We also believe that immediate expansion of the program to the level proposed would be unwise for fiscal reasons. The entire Federal government is currently experiencing severe fiscal constraints. The inflationary pressures of the economy together with the limited financial resources at our disposal dictate fiscal restraint.

For our pilot program to date, the University of Michigan Institute for Social Research has evaluated the benefits which the participating youth have gained from the program in terms of environmental education, and in the social and cultural interaction among youth of all social, economic and racial groups. On the basis of that evaluation, we believe the YCC experience has provided these young people with a new respect for our natural heritage and an awareness of their responsibilities as citizens of the United States. During its first two years the program has produced improvements on lands under the jurisdiction of this Department valued at $2,236,000, thus exceeding 74 percent of the cost of the program in terms of appropriated funds.

The Department of the Interior firmly believes in the need to conserve, preserve, and maintain our vast natural resources and to protect our environment for the future of our young citizens. However, we also firmly believe that the YCC program must coincide with our capabilities to conduct the program in an orderly manner consistent with other needs, future priorities and fiscal constraints.

We believe that the funding level which has been requested for FY 1974 will enable us to maintain the quality of the program and provide meaningful work programs in which the youth can participate in the planning and designing and continued environmental education.

The Office of Management and Budget has advised that there is no objection to the presentation of this report from the standpoint of the Administration's program.

Sincerely yours,

JAMES T. CLARKE,
Assistant Secretary of the Interior.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,
Washington, D.C., July 25, 1973.

Hon. HENRY M. JACKSON,
Chairman, Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,
U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: As you requested, here are our views on S. 1871, a bill "To amend the Youth Conservation Corps Act of 1972 (Public Law 92-597, 86

Stat. 1319) to expand and make permanent the Youth Conservation Corps, and for other purposes."

The Department of Agriculture recommends that S. 1871 not be enacted in its present form.

S. 1871 would authorize the Secretaries of Agriculture and the Interior to establish a Youth Conservation Corps (YCC). Under the bill, youth of both sexes between 15 and 19 years of age representing all social, economic, and racial classifications would be eligible for employment in the Corps. The bill would also direct the Secretaries to jointly establish a grant program to assist the States in establishing and operating YCC programs on non-Federal lands and waters within the States. Thirty percent of the funds available under the bill would be provided as grants to the States. Total appropriations would not exceed $150 million for each fiscal year.

This summer we will complete the third and final year of the Youth Conservation Corps pilot program authorized by P.L. 91–378. Our evaluations to date show that this pilot program has been successful in terms of conservation work accomplished, environmental learning and understanding achieved by Corps members, and knowledge of the potential effectiveness of the program gained. In the past two summers the Departments of Agriculture and Interior have employed 6,271 youths in the Youth Conservation Corps. Of this number, 3,241 Corps members were placed in Forest Service camps. Total funding for 1971 and 1972 was $6 million, while the total appraised value of work accomplished by the Corps was $4,464,000. Independent evaluation conducted by the Institute of Social Research of the University of Michigan concludes that in 1972 youth gains in environmental knowledge from their YCC experience are approximately equal to one full academic year of study in a normal high school setting.

The University of Michigan analysis also indicates that more evaluation is needed before a comprehensive, full scale YCC effort is considered. For example, in its evaluation of the 1972 Youth Conservation Corps, the University recommended that further research be conducted on the length and size of camps, the residential nature of camps, the long-range impact on and value of the program for Corps members over a longer spectrum of time, and the special needs of American Indian and black youth which are not being met by the YCC program. The report also indicated that the educational aspect of the program needs additional administrative attention to assure that the YCC program is offering a fully integrated work-learning experience. Other items which merit further refinement are the valuation of conservation work accomplished and methods of determining what this work would cost if other resources were used to accomplish it.

We do not believe that an expansion of the program to the $150 million level as proposed in S. 1871 is either realistic or desirable. The $150 million authorization level far exceeds the capabilities of the Departments of Agriculture and the Interior to responsibly and effectively administer the Youth Conservation Corps.

The pilot approach has permitted us to develop a sound and orderly base for a Youth Conservation Corps program. To a large degree, we believe the high measure of success which the program has achieved to date is the result of working at a manageable program level. We believe the most effective approach to an expanded YCC would be a gradual phasing of program increases coupled with continued program evaluation. The President's budget for fiscal year 1974 reflects this philosophy in its request for $10 million for YCC; this represents an increase of $6½ million above the funds programmed for 1973. In the fiscal year 1974 program, funds will be available for State grants. This is a new aspect of the YCC program which deserves the same careful study and development as that provided the pilot Youth Conservation Corps program.

In view of the experience of the past two years and the need for further experience and evaluation, we do not recommend enactment of this legislation at a permanent annual funding level of $150 million. As you know, P.L. 92–597 authorized $60 million for the Youth Conservation Corps program for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1974. We believe this legislation provides more than sufficient fiscal flexibility for expanding the program. We therefore recommend that future authorization levels be for "such sums as may be necessary." However, if the Committee feels that this program should be continued at the current level of $60 million, this Department would have no objection.

We believe that the immediate expansion of the current program to the annual level proposed in S. 1871 would seriously dilute program quality and create administrative and operational difficulties. As a result, we would run the risk

of failing to meet the hopes and expectations of the YCC program, its administrators, and participating youth.

The Office of Management and Budget advises that there is no objection to the presentation of this report from the standpoint of the Administration's program.

Sincerely,

J. PHIL CAMPBELL, *Under Secretary.*

COMPTROLLER GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES,
Washington, D.C., August 1, 1973.

B-167151.

Hon. HENRY M. JACKSON,
Chairman, Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,
U.S. Senate.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: By letter dated June 27, 1973, you requested our report on S. 1871, 93d Congress, a bill to expand and make permanent the Youth Conservation Corps.

S. 1871 would amend the act of August 13, 1970, Public Law 91-378, 84 Stat. 794, as amended, to expand and make permanent the Youth Conservation Corps. The bill would retain most of the provisions of the act governing the administration of the Corps but would delete references to it as a pilot program and authorize funds to be appropriated for "each fiscal year" following enactment, rather than for fiscal years 1973 and 1974 only.

Section 2 would provide for the employment of young men or women ages 15 through 18 for a term of not in excess of 90 days during any single year but would not include the limitation now in Public Law 91-78 as amended by the act of October 27, 1972, Public Law 92-597, 86 Stat. 1319, that such employment be during the summer months. We understand that, in the past, the program has been limited to the summer months in order to provide employment opportunities to young persons when they were out of school and not to conflict with other federally assisted programs which seek to reduce the number of youths who drop out of school. The Committee may wish to further consider the period during which young persons may be employed as members of the Corps.

Section 3(a)(1) would provide for the Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture to determine the areas under their administrative jurisdictions which are appropriate for carrying out programs using employees of the Corps. In view of subsection 3(a)(3) under which members of the Corps shall be deemed not to be Federal employees except for certain specific purposes, the provision of section 3(a)(1) apparently relates to the selection of activities suitable for work to be carried out by persons enrolled in the Corps. Therefore, we suggest that the word "members" be substituted for "employees." Also, the word "members" would be consistent with the language used in subsections 2(b) and 3(b).

Sincerely yours,

PAUL G. DEMBLING,
(For the Comptroller General of the United States.)

The CHAIRMAN. May I say on behalf of the committee that I am very pleased to see such a large and fine turnout of the YCC members and staff here from the YCC program.

I understand we have members from the Harper's Ferry Youth Conservation Corps, Catoctin Mountain National Park YCC, and National Capital Parks East Conservation Corps.

I think it is important that these young people attend these hearings because it is important for them to fully understand how decisions are made in Washington, D.C., and sometimes how they are not made, and particularly on legislation which involves improvement of our natural resources and the betterment of our young people.

As members of the Corps so properly stated, "the YCC puts it all together."

My concern, however, is that there is an attitude that does exist which is adverse to making this a permanent program. May I say that this committee has been unanimous in its support, on a bipartisan basis, for the Youth Conservation Corps.

How many of you want to see the YCC die? Let me see a show of hands.

[No response.]

The CHAIRMAN. How many of you want to see it continue?

[Show of hands.]

The CHAIRMAN. I believe, of course, that this program can be enlarged to at least 150,000, 200,000 young people across the country.

I want to state right now that I want this program enacted, and I am sure this is going to be the view of the committee—that it becomes law at this session of the Congress.

I should emphasize that the Youth Conservation Corps program has operated on a pilot basis now for 3 years. I have many letters from former members of the YCC who feel that this has contributed to their lives, improved our natural resources and made them better citizens.

I would like to introduce in the record, many letters which demonstrate this quite factually, and I am sure my colleagues, Senator Hatfield and Senator McClure, who are here, have similar letters which they may wish to put in the record.

[The letters referred to above appear in the appendix of the hearing record.]

The CHAIRMAN. I have statements from Senator Humphrey and Senator Domenici which I will place in the record at this point.

[The prepared statements of Senator Humphrey and Senator Domenici follow:]

July 25, 1973

Honorable Hubert H. Humphrey
United States Senate
Washington, D. C.

Dear Hubert:

Thank you for your letter of July 25 in which you set forth your comments and views with respect to S. 1878, my bill to expand and make permanent the Youth Conservation Corps.

I appreciate very much having your support in this important legislation and I shall see to it that your letter is included in the hearing record of July 25.

With best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

Henry M. Jackson
Chairman

HMJ:rd

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United States Senate
COMMITTEE ON
AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

July 25, 1973

The Honorable Henry M. Jackson
Chairman
Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs
United States Senate
Washington, D. C. 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I am submitting this statement in connection with current hearings by the Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs on S. 1871, legislation to expand and make permanent the Youth Conservation Corps. I strongly support this legislation and highly commend your initiative in securing the enactment of the 1970 law for the launching of this vital program, and of the 1972 Act for its continuation on a pilot basis.

As a cosponsor of S. 1871, I want to take this opportunity to explain my long-term interest in securing Federal support for programs to provide work experience opportunities for youth in community and area improvement -- challenging work that can lead to a better physical and social environment, and in which young people can gain valuable new job skills.

As you know, in 1957 I introduced legislation to create a youth conservation corps, which ultimately led to the establishment of the Job Corps with the enactment of the Economic Opportunity Act eight years later. The Job Corps has achieved excellent results in serving low-income young men and women, aged 14 to 21, who need further training, education, or counselling to secure meaningful employment and to pursue their education. Nevertheless, this program has suffered cutbacks under the present Administration. I am hopeful that the Administration will carry out the intent of my amendment to the latest continuing appropriations legislation, as expressed in the final conference report, that the level of funding for the Job Corps for Fiscal 1974 be continued at $183.4 million.

The extensive first-hand knowledge I gained of young lives crippled by poverty, in the course of my work with governors and mayors while Vice President and chairman of the President's Council on Youth Opportunity, deeply impressed me with the vital necessity for new initiatives by the Federal Government in promoting work experience opportunities for the youth of America. Among such initiatives, which I outlined in testimony before the Senate Subcommittee on Employment, Manpower, and Poverty in April, 1971, and in a statement in the Senate on May 9, 1972, would be a substantial expansion of the Neighborhood Youth Corps programs to include the provision of 250,000 job opportunities for youth to be involved in work at a fair wage in essential projects of community improvement and public services.

These efforts and concerns explain my strong support for the Youth Conservation Corps Act and for the present legislation to significantly expand its programs of demonstrated accomplishment. Impressive results include the fact that last year 3,500 young people accomplished $2.7 million worth of improvements to our natural resources.

Among some 100 camps operated last summer were a pilot training program for about 20 youth at the Sherburne Wildlife Refuge, near St. Cloud, Minnesota, and another program at the Chippewa Forest. The Sherburne project, under careful supervision, has provided these young people with an excellent first-hand education in the basic principles of ecology and conservation. Videotapes of the YCC on the Sherburne Refuge, well known for its deer herds and flocks of Canada geese, have been used in environmental education programs in schools around Minnesota. The enthusiasm of the young people both in performing hard work and enjoying various recreation activities, has also been evident in a rate of applications far in excess of the number that can be accepted. And notable public lands improvements have been achieved under this program, including the construction of a nature trail, a contact station overlooking the refuge, and the clearing of a waterway for canoeing.

The fact remains, however, that so much more could be done by an on behalf of our young people of all socio-economic backgrounds if the Youth Conservation Corps could be substantially expanded and operated on a permanent basis. There is a job that needs to be done, and there is a love and understanding of life and nature that can and should be gained. The opportunity can and must be seized to respond simultaneously to a nationwide concern for the protection of the environment and to the urgent need to provide opportunities for meaningful work in a time of critically high unemployment among American youth.

I would appreciate your incorporating this statement of my views in the hearing record on this important legislation.

Sincerely,

Hubert H. Humphrey

STATEMENT OF HON. PETE V. DOMENICI, A U.S. SENATOR FROM THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee, I am pleased to have this opportunity to offer a statement in support of S. 1671, a bill to amend the Youth Conservation Corps Act of 1972 to expand and make permanent the Youth Conservation Corps.

I believe that the Youth Conservation Corps is one of the best programs to come to the forests, soils, and waters of this country. It has proven to be a worthwhile achievement in conservation of natural resources, in human conservation and also as an experiment in practical training and education of youth.

Summer employment opportunities for the youth of this country in conservation programs on park lands, wildlife refuges, forest lands, streambeds and wilderness areas has provided a rich and rewarding alternative to summers of inactivity, boredom and frustration. What better way is there to conserve the human and natural resources of our Nation than by continuing and expanding the Youth Conservation Corps.

Mr. Chairman, I would like to have included in the record some statistics which I received from William D. Hurst, Regional Director, U. S. Forest Service.

Mr. Chairman, I feel it is important to note the overwhelming interest young people have shown for the Youth Conservation Corps program. In New Mexico there were 1550 applicants for only 68 positions.

This enthusiasm continues even after the youth are finished with the program as expressed in letters from former YCC participants. Mr. Chairman, I ask that these letters be included in the record also.

Another interesting fact is that the Youth Conservation Corps program has encouraged several former members to attend college and major in biological science programs.

Beyond the benefits which I have stated, I know the committee is aware of the thousands of out-of-school and unoccupied youth wandering aimlessly on the city streets of this nation and of the potentially explosive situation this creates. S. 1871 provides an excellent way to help young men and women from all social, economic, and racial backgrounds to participate in a program to benefit both them and the Nation.

YOUTH CONSERVATION CORPS INFORMATION
CALENDAR YEARS 1972 and 1973

Objective of the Youth Conservation Corps Program:

1. To provide gainful summer employment to American youth between the ages of 15 and 18 years of age.

2. To accomplish needed conservation work on public lands.

3. To provide the opportunity to gain an appreciation of the Nation's natural environment and heritage.

Number of Participants Within the Forest Service and Other Agencies in the State of New Mexico:

1972 - 48 enrollees with the Forest Service (6-week program)
- 20 enrollees with the Bureau of Land Management (8-week program)

(Both Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management were 7-day residential programs)

1973 - 48 enrollees with the Forest Service (8-week program)
- 20 enrollees with the Bureau of Land Management (8-week program)

(Both Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management were 7-day residential programs)

Number of Applicants for Available YCC Positions:

1972 - Forest Service: 1400
- Bureau of Land Management: 1000

1973 - Forest Service: 550
- Bureau of Land Management: 1000

Forest Service participants were recruited by the Employment Security Commission of New Mexico.

Composition of Enrollees Selected:

We do not have statistics for BLM camps. However, information can be obtained from Mr. Kirby Klein, YCC Project Manager, Bureau of Land Management, 1705 North Valley Drive, P. O. Box 1420, Las Cruces, New Mexico 88001.

1972 - Forest Service: 24 young women
24 young men

1973 - Forest Service: 24 young women
24 young men

	1972		1973	
Ethnic background:	Anglo	32	Anglo	24
	Indian	1	Indian	3
	Spanish	14	Spanish	21
	Black	1	Black	0
Average Age:	15		16	

The enrollees came from all income brackets.

Forest Service Projects Accomplished by YCC Enrollees:

1972:

1. 900 enrollee hours spent picking up litter on nature trails, roadsides, and campgrounds.
2. Maintained 2 miles of nature trails.
3. Maintained 2,000 acres of vegetative type conservation.
4. Constructed 900 feet of roadside barrier for meadow protection.
5. Removed 20 miles of obsolete barbed wire fence.
6. Pruned 30 acres of trees to beautify roadside scenery.
7. Transplanted 34, 8-15 foot ponderosa pine trees to beautify campgrounds.
8. Installed eight interpretative signs on nature trails.
9. Seeded 100 acres of watershed for erosion control purposes.
10. General maintenance of two large campground facilities.

1973:

1. Constructed 200 yards of removable cable barrier in McGaffey snow recreation area.
2. Picked up 33 miles of roadside litter.
3. Maintained two campgrounds, including painting, traffic barrier reconstruction, pruning of dead branches, spot graveling on access roads and around picnic tables, and litter pickup.
4. Maintained one mile of nature trail in heavily used recreation area.
5. Maintained one-half mile of damaged drainage ditches, constructed diversion dams, and replaced one culvert in watershed project.

6. Constructed eight cable traffic control barriers along major Forest access roads.

7. Constructed 3000 feet of pole fence and 800 feet of barbed wire fence in the McGaffey recreation area.

8. Constructed one-half mile of new barbed wire fence along Forest boundary near Bluewater Lake.

9. Constructed 15 fish habitat improvement dams in Bluewater Creek.

10. Maintained 80 acres of vegetative type conversion.

11. Cleaned up 300 acres of unsightly brush and dead tree material along heavily travelled Forest recreation roads.

12. Constructed horse corral at Ranger Station administrative site.

13. Constructed 100 feet of rock retaining wall in campground.

14. Transplanted 60 large ponderosa pine trees to beautify campground.

Environmental Education Program

In addition to the work projects, which provided education opportunities in themselves, a formal environmental education program was conducted during calendar years 1972 and 1973. All Youth Conservation Corps participants spent approximately 25 percent of their time learning about the natural environment. This was accomplished through formal lectures, films, demonstrations, informal discussions, "rap" sessions, field trips, and independent reading.

Topics covered in the educational program included:

1. Timber Management.
2. Range Management.
3. Watershed Management.
4. Wildlife Management.
5. Water pollution.
6. Air pollution.
7. Recreation management.
8. Impact of man on the natural environment.
9. Wilderness management.
10. Relationship of the natural environment to urban areas including economic contributions.
11. Water ecology.
12. Stream ecology.

13. Land ecology.
14. Wildfire control and prevention.
15. Energy systems.
16. Food chains.
17. Soil structure and productivity.
18. Overall management systems of the natural environment and their relationship to each other.

All Youth Conservation Corps participants, through a series of pre- and post-tests, showed an increased awareness of our natural environment. Knowledge was gained in all areas discussed. Highest interest was shown in wildlife management and overall management systems.

Many enrollees, based on their experience with the Youth Conservation Corps, have entered college with majors in forestry, botany, biology or wildlife management. Some have received scholarships.

STATEMENT FROM MR. MYRON CARSON OF THE EMPLOYMENT SECURITY COMMISSION OF NEW MEXICO:

The Youth Conservation Corps is a real worthwhile program and a good outlet for youth, providing them with a work-training experience. It also helps us to secure jobs for the summer and we would like to see the program expanded to allow more youths of New Mexico to participate.

We had 22 major offices involved in the interviewing and counseling of young people concerning this and other youth programs.

COPY OF LETTER FROM 1972 YCC PARTICIPANT

To all YCC Enrollees,

Hi Everybody, I'm Mary Jane Cordova, a former YCC Enrollee. Last night I was listening to the news and heard a report on the Youth Conservation Corps working at the Continental Divide. When I saw everybody in their work shirts, Levis, and hard hats, building that fence in that very beautiful and familiar country, something warm and happy burst inside me. My whole summer was relived by just watching. Every little thing, from the hard hats, to the axes, to the dorms and grounds, that makes up the camp brings back all sorts of memories. It really made me happy to see such a fortunate group of teens getting an experience of a life time. I grant you that if you're open minded, willing eager, and daring enough to accept the challenges, whether they be from the pool table or Staffers, that will come up before you during your stay, they will change you in some particular way, and help you to grow into a unique individual. The work, education, people and just living together will bring deep meaning into your lives. Perhaps not now, but maybe in a year or so as has happened to me and many of my friends I met there. Although you may be homesick, missing out on a lot of parties back home, not liking the food, or work, or a hundred little things that annoy you, all you have to do is open your heart, and reach out your hand and you will find a friend. Friendship is the most precious of jewels. While I was attending New Mexico Girls State, at the beginning of this summer, we had a simple code that we worked and lived by:

Take time to work: It is the price of success.
Take time to play: It is the secret of perpetual youth.
Take time to laugh: It is the music of the soul.
Take time to give: It is too short a day to be selfish.
Take time to be friendly: It is the road to happiness.
Take time to love and be loved: It is a God given priviledge.

With these few thoughts in mind, I have been able to live an adventurous life instead of just dreaming about it. I hope you too can do the same. I would be delighted and eager to hear from you, please feel free to write me anytime. I'll never forget my summer of "72", and I hope your's will be just as memorable.

Love always,

Mary Jane Cordova
"72" YCC Enrollee

P.S. Beware of the P.J.'s and "axle grease" sandwiches.

P.P.S.S. Thanks and appreciation to <u>all</u> STAFFERS.

LETTER FROM 1972 YCC ENROLLEE - SUSAN MERCEY

I thoroughly enjoyed this summer's YCC program. I feel that it has been a worthwhile experience for me. Some of the work was hard, but most of it I was capable of handling. I don't think we did a job that wasn't necessary, although they had a tendency to get a little bit monotonous.

I think that we need more time, though, funds permitting, for instance in all summer programs, or two programs running back to back. There were days on work crew when we were told to work at our own pace and there were days when we were really pushed. We should allowed to work at our own pace all the time unless we are just fooling around and not getting anything done.

Also we should be allowed to finish some of the projects we start. The crew I was on dug holes for a barrier along the road and we honestly wanted to finish it, but the next day another crew got to do it. We wanted to be able to say we built this barrier from start to finish, not we dug the holes for it. I was really disappointed!

Another crew got to build a trail from start to finish, which is really great. We did one project from start to finish. We took down a barbed wire fence and pulled out all the fence posts, that was easy. It was just carrying all the barbed wire and posts down the mountain to the road, it was a steep mountain, too, and entirely too dangerous, especially with a little addition of rain to make it slippery.

While I am thinking of it, you need to get new shocks on the carryalls.

The lunches on work crew were pretty bad. My only gripe is I had mayonnaise and I refuse to eat it on sandwiches. It took 5 weeks to get mustard and ketchup in the lunches, and then instead of the great lemonade we got this poor excuse for tea. All in all, it was great.

Only one complaint about education - straightforward lectures are a real drag.

As for group living - that's another story. It is very exciting to come in from work crew with a half hour to shower and change before supper and find out Education beat you in; the showers are full and top it off, no hot water.

I think the curfew was pretty bad. There should be a 2 o'clock curfew on weekends and at least 11 o'clock curfew on week nights, with quiet hours starting at 10 o'clock, you can come in anytime you are tired and go to sleep.

Last night we had a slumber party and there were too damn strict! They sat at the end of the hall like watch dogs. It was a bad scene. If you made a noise they threatened us by telling us we would have to go back to our own rooms.

The recreation was good. I liked the dances, but we could have stood to have more of them. I liked rollar skating and the swimming party. I wish we could have hade more movies, too, not so many retarded movies, either. Sell cigarettes and film in the recreation room.

The staff members were really fantastic. I think they should have been allowed to date enrollees if they wanted to without fear of losing their jobs. Some of the staff members were really good friends, people you could trust and just sit down and talk to. They were always fair when you needed them.

This has been the best summer for me because I have learned a lot about myself and others. I know my tolerance level and my compatibility. I know I don't want to leave and if I can I will be back. This summer has even helped me find out where I am going in life. I made a decision about college and about my occupation.

All I can say now is thanks for the memories, may God bless and keep you peace and love always and forever.

Signed,

Susan Merkey

The CHAIRMAN. I think this program has had sufficient experimentation. I think the pilot phase is over, and we want to see this program become a permanent part of our conservation effort, not only the conservation of our great material resources, but our most important resource of all; that is, our young people.

I believe we made a good beginning, and I believe our purpose now is to get the show on the road, and get a permanent program established that will be an ongoing program.

I want to emphasize the strong support of this committee for the YCC, and I am going to ask, because we have so many meetings going on this afternoon, Senator Mark Hatfield of Oregon, who has been a cosponsor of this bill from the very beginning, to preside; Senator James McClure, who is from Idaho, who has likewise been a supporter of this program first in the House and now in the Senate, to take over after Senator Hatfield must depart.

So I will hope that you understand that we have a very heavy committee schedule, and our job is to make the record here and to get your views.

And I want you to speak very candidly; when you tell us how good it is, tell us where it is bad. It cannot be all good. Now, if you can leave out the usual gripes, which you get in any organization whether it is the Army or something else, if you can kind of shove that aside and identify some areas where you think things are not quite what they should be and could be better.

I want you to participate in this legislative process by identifying those areas where improvements can be attained, so that the next group coming in can avail themselves of these new opportunities thanks to your input here as witnesses and participants in the process.

The first witness is Miss Dottie Perks, group leader of the Youth Conservation Camp at Harper's Ferry, W. Va., and a former YCC member.

And, then, Mr. Jerry McGee, the youth leader from Fort McClellan, Ala.

I took basic training in World War II at Fort McClellan, Ala. Is the Talladega National Forest still there?

Mr. MCGEE. Yes.

The CHAIRMAN. Mr. Richard Hergenroeder or Mr. David House. You are which?

Mr. HERGENROEDER. I am Richard Hergenroeder.

The CHAIRMAN. And, are you David House?

Mr. HOUSE. Yes. I am David House.

The CHAIRMAN. From Catoctin Mountain National Park, Md. And. Dottie, you are in charge. Is that right? The girls take over—women's lib.

And I will turn the hearing over to Senator Hatfield, who will preside, and, subsequently, Senator McClure. This is "Be Kind To Republicans Week." [Laughter.]

The CHAIRMAN. I am afraid we are faced with an entire Republican committee, but that just shows how much we have a special regard for some Republicans. [Laughter.]

Senator HATFIELD [presiding]. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

I think this is the only hearing going on on Capitol Hill today in which there is any kindness being expressed toward Republicans. [Laughter.]

Senator HATFIELD. We may not have as much television and the news media up here, Miss Perks and gentlemen, but I assure you, as Chairman Jackson has already stated, we have certainly some of the most important legislative considerations to handle any place on the Hill, and I not only associate myself with his very eloquent statement and the views that he expressed, but I am very honored to have this opportunity to hear from you, and Senator McClure and I are very anxious to hear from you, rather than for you to listen to us.

Consequently, you may proceed as you wish, and we will be happy to have your statement printed in full in the record if you want to handle it by extemporizing, or whatever.

STATEMENT OF DOTTIE PERKS, GROUP LEADER, YOUTH CONSERVATION CORPS CAMP, HARPER'S FERRY, W. VA.

Miss PERKS. Senator Hatfield and distinguished members of the committee, first, I want to express my thanks for the opportunity to express my feelings on the YCC. My fellow employees have helped me in developing my opening statements.

As members of the Youth Conservation Corps, we have experienced first-hand the values of the YCC. Therefore, we feel it is part of our job to encourage its continuation and perpetuate its expansion.

Far too many young people are being denied the privilege of being a Corps member, and we, as enrollees, wish to commit ourselves to more than an 8-week program.

Consequently, we feel that the extension of the YCC to a year-round, 12-month, program would be invaluable. It would seem that Senate bill 1871 could lend itself to this purpose, and should be exercised to the fullest. This would offer more people the opportunity to serve, while providing an even greater service to our sponsoring agencies.

The future of this Nation and the world rests with the young people, and the YCC is the perfect instrument for educating us in the problems and the solutions. If the world is to survive the crises it now faces, we must all join together. We see an international YCC as the beginning of a solution.

By developing a worldwide program, we could literally expose the whole Earth to the problems at hand, and initiate a unified effort in solving them and preventing others.

The YCC, at present time, has the flexibility to meet the demands of almost any need. This is one area we hope will not be changed. Hopefully, the program will be allowed the continued freedom of experimentation so that it does not become just another make-work program.

As we see it, the YCC can be the answer to any question. We have seen the change it has made in our lives and in the lives of others. We have become aware of our responsibility as citizens of this Nation and the world.

We have learned to join hands, regardless of race, religion, sex and age to work together.

All we need is a chance.

Thank you.

Senator HATFIELD. Thank you very much.

Now, do other members of the panel wish to make a statement at this time, or to make any comments?

STATEMENT OF RICHARD HERGENROEDER, MEMBER, YOUTH CONSERVATION CORPS, CATOCTIN MOUNTAIN NATIONAL PARK, MD.

Mr. HERGENROEDER. My experiences are more personal. I have been involved in the Catoctin YCC for about 4 weeks now. It has proven to be the most valuable experience in my life.

Coming from Baltimore, I have met and become good friends with kids of various backgrounds. Catoctin's extensive recreational activities, which are planned by the Corps members, have led us to sponsor an athletic tournament, and some dances with neighboring YCC camps.

Besides having fun, I have learned a lot as well. Pollution, ecology and environment; these were just things I read about in magazines and observed from the highway.

On our weekend trips, we have recorded experiments and tests of the water and the watershed environment at Catoctin, in the Potomac and in Baltimore. We will present our conclusions on the contrasting sites at one of our environmental symposiums.

Aside from our personal involvement, we have had many speakers relate to us the different aspects of the use, management and protection of our natural resources.

Then, of course, there is work. Although it seems to be a drag at times, our jobs are quite worthwhile. Projects include spring repair, trail and road maintenance, construction of Adirondack shelters, the lining of a 19th century sawmill trail race, the stone, foot bridge-building, and erosion control.

Some crews have already exceeded their work quotas set by themselves and the park staff.

But thinking about our work is not all that bad. In dealing with others on the job, I have learned a lot about them and myself as well.

I could go on talking for hours, and so could the staff members and other Corps members.

YCC has proven to be a meaningful experience for all of us at Catoctin, while at the same time it has benefited the park, our environment and natural resources, and the general public as well.

Senator HATFIELD. Thank you very much.

STATEMENT OF DAVID HOUSE, MEMBER, YOUTH CONSERVATION CORPS, CATOCTIN MOUNTAIN NATIONAL PARK, MD.

Mr. HOUSE. Mine was more personal than Richard's was.

I am, this year, part of the Youth Conservation Corps operating out of Catoctin Mountain National Park. In the statements and ideas that follow, I will express my views on YCC, and what I have learned through the program so far this summer.

In YCC, the program focuses on conservation and the preservation of our natural resources in almost everything we do; work trips, ecology classes, and sometimes even recreation. The point is stressed to preserve what we have now for the future generations to enjoy.

I, personally, have become so involved in trying to meet this goal that I am sometimes too overconfident, and feel like taking on all of the polluters in the world.

But I think that all of the objectives of YCC have been fulfilled, or are close to being fulfilled in just the first 4 weeks that camp has been operating.

This is what makes YCC, in my opinion, one of the greatest programs ever devised. It puts youth and adults together, striving to fulfill the objectives and purposes set up for the YCC program.

The program stresses that we will or should develop self-discipline, self-dignity, a way to relate better with peers and superiors, and to build lasting cultural and communication bridges among youth from various backgrounds.

In other words, the corps member will learn to control his or her emotions, both physically and mentally, will learn or has all ready learned to set aside all prejudices, wrong conclusions and hatreds he or she may have.

By mentally blocking these ideas and by working and living with my fellow corps members, I have overcome any moral blocks in my life. When I overcame these moral blocks, I started to lead a more fulfilling and pleasurable life at camp, at home, and in the world around me. I think if it were not for the YCC program, I would still probably have these moral blocks.

Also, the YCC program brings together people from both rural and city areas. With this type of cultural mingling, I have obtained the attitudes of two completely different sets of people.

By uniting these two sets of people in a joint activity, such as YCC, you develop a whole new culture in itself, with morals and attitudes being constructed or destroyed; and the life of a corps member and the lives of the people around him or her will be inspired and become meaningful to their fullest extent.

The past statement is what I believe to be factual and to hold true to almost all corps members, boy or girl alike.

For the reasons stated, I believe, and all corps members alike must believe, that YCC is the most meaningful and fulfilling experience a youth or adult could have during his or her entire lifetime, and will probably help influence the lives of others.

Thank you.

Senator HATFIELD. Thank you very much, Mr. House.

STATEMENT OF JERRY McGEE, YOUTH LEADER, YOUTH CONSERVATION CORPS CAMP, FORT McCLELLAN, ALA.

Mr. MCGEE. I would just like to say thanks to you, Senator Hatfield, and Senator Jackson and all of these Senators for giving us, the young people, a chance to say something, and I really think that is the way it should be.

My name is Jerry McGee, and I am from Talladega, Ala.

I was fortunate enough to be able to return as a youth leader at our camp. This is my seventh year. I would like to give a general picture of our camp.

We do some of the lighter work that takes the load off the regular Forest Service employees, such as building trails, planting trees, thinning out young trees, cleaning up garbage, painting, building benches, and planting grass; things like this. And we sort of enjoy the work because it is not going down the drain; it is worthwhile. We believe it is worthwhile.

We are very happy because we consider ourselves to be fortunate because we live—I guess we are the only ones who live on an Army base. We live at Fort McClellan, and we live in the barracks next to the soldiers.

It is a coed camp this year; the girls live in one barracks, and the boys in the other one. We eat dinner in the messhall. The soldiers—the commander, I guess, has even made the theater and bowling alley, the swimming pool and gymnasium available to us.

I think we will work better when we have something to look forward to, and it keeps us in a happy mood, and we can get more work done. You can get more work done when you have something to look forward to.

The Navy furnishes buses for us to take trips on. They even furnished six four-wheel-drive trucks for us, and I think the Army has been doing a great job of helping us out.

I would like to say that our camp directors and our counselors, they are doing a great job. They are even giving us more say-so; like, this year, they even tried to let us plan our education, some of it, anyway.

In our camp, we decided we would like to have two classes a week and maybe a speaker, and maybe we would like to take a trip out to some site in the forest. We submit this plan to the director, and he tries to carry it out and make any changes he feels should be made.

In the forest, there is a dam. I do not know how it happened—but some of the best things can happen—we had our director get the man who inspected the dam when it was being built.

He even got that man to come and show us the lines that were put in after it was built, and the people in the Army actually furnished us a generator, and they even showed us slides out there on the dam while the sun was going down. Those are the kind of things that happened to us.

I could go on and on about the marvelous things that have happened to me, but it would take such a long time. I really appreciate it.

Thank you.

Senator HATFIELD. Thank you very much.

I would like to observe that all of you have proven to be very articulate, not only in expressing your experiences or sharing experiences, but expressing conceptual views. And also you demonstrated a very rare commodity here on Capitol Hill. You have been very brief and succinct. Thank you. I commend you for excellent testimony.

I would like to come back to you for a question or two, Mr. McGee. Would you describe for us where you live, and the type of surrounding in which you live, your usual day-to-day activities, what your life is like?

Mr. McGEE. I live in the rural area, and right out across from my front yard I see a mountain. It is part of the Talladega National Park, and I did not even know it was until I was in the Youth Conservation Corps.

It has a fire tower, and I did not even know why it was there until I got up there; and I heard about the Youth Conservation Corps through my guidance counselor at school.

Senator HATFIELD. Have you any job plans or definite plans about your future, and what you want to do as a career, or the type of curriculum or educational experience you wish to gain?

Mr. McGEE. Yes. I really like it. The Weyerhaeuser Wood Co., they gave some money to Tuskegee Institute, and I applied for a scholarship, and I was accepted at the end of August.

The YCC had a great deal to do with my decision, because I really enjoyed the work, and I thought it was real wild. It is better than working at something you do not believe in.

You might just do work and—you do not want to go back to work just because you know you have to make a living. But this time you know you want to go back to work because you enjoy it.

Senator HATFIELD. Would I be accurate in drawing a picture that through this experience in YCC you were not only exposed to new vistas and new dimensions, and out of this experience it helped to formulate in your mind a future career, and that you are now hoping to enter into a study program which will lead you into the field of natural resource management? Is this an accurate picture?

Mr. McGEE. Yes, sir. I had considered it before, but I really made up my mind through the Youth Conservation Corps.

Senator HATFIELD. So, in effect, through the use of a few dollars in this program, we have, in you, a potential—as far as potential investment, someone who is skilled and professionally trained to enter into the natural resource field, to really make a contribution to this Nation. You are a tremendous return on a small investment.

Mr. McGEE. Well, I do not know.

Senator HATFIELD. That is a rhetorical question.

[Laughter.]

Senator HATFIELD. When you were describing this program, Miss Perks, and how you were involved in it, if I missed it, would you tell me of your initial contact; how did you become acquainted with this?

In other words, what is the communication technique that brought all of you to this program particularly? Was it adequately explained? Was it something that you had a thorough understanding of before you were actually involved?

Miss PERKS. Well, I became involved in the program in its initial year, and, to be quite frank with you, I came into it not knowing exactly what it was. And, like all new programs, in the very beginning, we were faced with a lot of lofty ideals and momentous work projects.

I would never have believed that we could have finished them, or that our ideals would become a reality. I think we surprised a great many people in what we actually accomplished, and these ideals, soon they became just a part of your everyday life and your personal attitudes and your awareness. And our program now, I think, is understood a great deal more than it was before.

Like my fellow witnesses, when you get YCC'ers together, you get a continuous flow of feedback about the program. We were talking last night about the program in preparation for my visit here, and some mess up in Salt Lake City: some people had not been getting their paychecks.

We talked about the idea that we never really associate our paychecks with our job. This is something that is a personal commitment to us. It is somethihng we can do and work at, and feel proud that we have done it.

And, the money that we get, small as it may be, really does not have much to do with it. We really do not want a pay increase because then it would become a money thing, and we really do not want that.

[Laughter.]

Senator HATFIELD. I hope our staff is listening to you at this time.

Do you purport to represent a unanimous viewpoint of your group? I think you have made your point very well. I think you have certainly told us in a sense, in a very few words you have given us a value system that you subscribe to.

Miss PERKS. Yes, sir.

Senator HATFIELD. Mr. Hergenroeder, how did you find out about the YCC? And, can you improve on the communication of this program to interest people who are not aware or who have not responded?

Mr. HERGENROEDER. In the past 2 years, at Catoctin, they took all the kids from Frederick County: that is, the county surrounding the park.

I am from the city, and this is the first year they took kids from Baltimore City. So, the recruiting system there was very poor. I just happened by chance to get into it. I heard about it last year, previous to this summer, and I tried to get into it, but I was told that they were only recruiting from Frederick County because they only had a limited number of openings.

So, it is an improvement, I would say. You really cannot publicize it a whole lot more unless you have a whole lot more openings for kids to get into it, because, you know, they would be competing against each other, which is not too good sometimes.

Senator HATFIELD. Mr. House, would you estimate the number of your friends or your acquaintances who would join this program if they had enough openings? Could you give us some kind of a ball park figure of how many might want to become a part if this was well communicated and if we had the openings?

Mr. HOUSE. I would say a good 95 percent of them. The kids I have talked to, friends of mine, when I have gone home, they just jump on me with questions and everything, "How is it going," and everything.

The way they talk, they are really interested in it, and I have even had some start asking me, "Couldn't I get in still?" and I said, "No. It is closed for the summer," and I said, "Try again next year."

Some of them did not know when recruiting was, and everything, because our schools are a little backward, and it was not openly announced that they were recruiting in that area, really. It just slid by, like.

I was turned down last year because I was 15 days too young, and I knew when it was coming up again this year, so I was just ready for it.

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Senator HATFIELD. Thank you very much.

I would like to turn the meeting over to Senator McClure for any questions he might have at this time.

Senator MCCLURE. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

I have been very much interested in your statements and responses to the questions. I might just note that one of the first programs of this nature was launched 12 years ago in my home State of Idaho.

I was in the State legislature at that time, and the program was a success, although an experimental program at the time outset. That experience led me to be a supporter of the program ever since. It has been talked about here in Washington. I am very much in favor of it.

I think what we are seeking now are some of your experiences in aiding us in evaluating so we will know what to do in terms of continuation, modification, expansion.

I notice that each you has mentioned that you heard about it. Did you hear about it from friends, or did you read about it, or what was your initial contact with the program?

Miss PERKS. My initial contact was through my guidance counselor in my high school. I think that is where—our YCC has contracts with the board of education, and our staff is furnished by the board of education, and they kind of help us out with recruiting and with our staff members.

This kind of works out real well because during the school year, they have close contact with the kids that will be involved; and through them most of the enrollees find out.

A lot of it depends on their friends, also. You get somebody who has a good thing, and it gets around. Then, people are seeking to find out about the YCC.

Senator MCCLURE. When did you first hear of it?

Mr. MCGEE. Through my guidance counselor at school.

Senator MCCLURE. At that school?

Mr. MCGEE. Yes.

Senator MCCLURE. Both of you have been involved in it before, and you are now leaders. Was last year your first experience? Were both of you in the program last year?

Mr. MCGEE. Last year was my first year.

Senator MCCLURE. How many weeks were you involved last year?

Mr. MCGEE. Eight weeks.

Miss PERKS. My first involvement came in the summer of 1971. This is my second year of staffing. In all 3 years, the program was 8 weeks involvement.

This year, Harper's Ferry has something new in order to provide a greater service to our national parks. We have the program spread to 12 weeks; 30 enrollees every 12 weeks.

So their season is longer than our 8 weeks. So, this way, it helps them add a little more by having our enrollees coming in on a staggered basis over a 12-week period. Each enrollee still has an 8-week experience, but the program extends over 13 weeks.

Senator MCCLURE. Would you recommend a continuation of the 8-week period, or would you suggest maybe we could shorten the period and double the number of kids?

Miss PERKS. I am in favor of a 12-month program.

[Laughter.]

Senator McCLURE. If you cannot have that as ideal, what is next best?

Miss PERKS. I would say an 8-week experience is most definitely good.

Senator McCLURE. You would not favor shortening the period, 4 weeks for each individual?

Miss PERKS. We have thought about this idea, and I would just have to say I would have to see it before I would know.

Senator McCLURE. Jerry, do you have any ideas?

Mr. McGEE. We have an 8-week program, and I think the 8 weeks is just right because everybody has a chance to spend enough time with everybody, to live with them, and to learn to like them, to work with them.

I have been working with my crew. We divided up into six eight-man crews, and during these 8 weeks you work with them, and you live with them, and it is just like a family. Ours is just right. I like it the way it is.

Senator McCLURE. Thank you very much. I have no further questions.

Senator HATFIELD. At this time, I would like to have placed in the record, without objection, a statement by Senator Frank Moss of Utah, who is a supporter of this bill, and he has a statement to that effect.

[The prepared statement of Senator Moss follows:]

PREPARED STATEMENT OF HON. FRANK E. MOSS, A U.S. SENATOR FROM THE STATE OF UTAH

Mr. Chairman, I am happy to appear before this committee in support of S. 1871, a bill to expand and make permanent the Youth Conservation Corps.

I have had a personal and long standing interest in the Youth Conservation Corps. One of the first bills that I co-sponsored when I came to the Senate was a bill to establish the YCC. The bill was accepted by the Senate, but the House rejected it. The following session, I again co-sponsored a bill to establish the YCC, and I continued to do so until legislation was finally enacted in the 91st Congress to establish this program. In 1971, as a member of this committee, I expressed support of expanding the YCC, and placed a statement in the Record.

I have personally observed the benefits that result from the Youth Conservation Corps camps. The YCC has proven its worth. This is not a theoretical program. To its credit, it provides education in conservation for our young people and brings to them an awareness of the beauties of nature, while putting them to work conserving our natural resources and creating facilities for outdoor recreation. Personal development of our young people results. And the nation benefits from their work. Because of this, I have wholeheartedly supported expansion of the program and strongly favor establishment of such a program on a permanent basis.

Parents of children who have participated in this program are proud of the accomplishments of their children. They are proud to make public that their children were involved in improving our natural resources for the enjoyment of our citizens. Many parents have become aware of an appreciation for work by their children as a result of participation in this program. The unique experiences of these young people that result from living in groups with individuals from all segments of society have done much to develop understanding, responsibility, and a willingness to perform a fair share of work.

Mr. Chairman, because of the proven effectiveness of this program, it should be expanded and made permanent. As I have stated on numerous occasions, such a program provides for the maintenance and development of our natural resources. I strongly support this bill, and I urge prompt and favorable action by the Committee.

Senator HATFIELD. Senator Haskell has just come in, a member of our committee, from the State of Colorado.

Senator Haskell, we have been hearing from these young people today about some of their experiences. They have also given us valuable evaluations of the program.

Senator HASKELL. I would assume, although I am late, I heard the question and the answer on 4 weeks versus 8 weeks. I would assume that 4 weeks is not really enough time to get into things.

Is that the reaction that you have: that 8 weeks is probably short enough, but at least people get into the swing? Would I be right in assuming that?

Miss PERKS. Yes, sir. I believe so.

Senator HASKELL. Because I know, as Senator Hatfield and Senator McClure—I do not know about them, but programs have been carried on in Colorado. It is liked in Colorado, not just from your viewpoint, but by people who live in Colorado permanently.

Would you have any estimate, and maybe someone else has an estimate, would you have any estimate of the percentages of people who apply who are fortunate enough to get in? In other words, there are people who are standing in line to get in; that is what I am getting at.

Miss PERKS. I think in our program we had over 100 applications, and we are only allowed to accept 30. So, that leaves a lot of people waiting.

Senator HASKELL. That leaves a lot of people standing in line. There is another bill that we have before us which seeks to increase the numbers in the program.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Senator HATFIELD. Do any of you have any additional comments? Miss Perks?

Miss PERKS. Mr. Haskell, in reference to your earlier statement about the 8-week program, one of the objectives of the YCC is to establish a cross-section of our Nation's youth, and this means that our program involves people from our social backgrounds.

I do not think 4 weeks is long enough to get over that initial cultural shock in order to know each other, which is one of the crucial and critical experiences of the YCC, learning to know people from all walks of life.

Senator HASKELL. Yes. I see what you mean: in addition to getting used to the program, you have to get used to the people you are with since you do come from different environments, and this takes time.

Let me ask you this. Why did you say you would like to have a 12-month program? Do you like it so much you would like to be doing it for 12 months rather than school, or how do you think it could be useful?

Miss PERKS. Sir, I think there is a definite need for it for our sponsoring agencies and for us. This is my third year, and I found that after my 8 weeks I do not stop thinking YCC. My involvement extends over the entire year.

I would like to make it more of a structured involvement, and I am sure that my fellow Corps members back me up 100 percent on this. It is like really getting excited about something, and having a great big anticlimax for it to be over at the end of the summer.

Senator HASKELL. Yes. I see what you mean. Thank you.

Senator HATFIELD. Do you sense a certain contagious spirit here?

Senator HASKELL. I do.

Senator HATFIELD. Thank you very much for your testimony and your leadership and your participation in the program, and to give us this evidence as to its worthiness.

And, I would say, not being too optimistic, I hope for its continuation. Thank you very much.

At this time, we will call on the next panel. Mr. James T. Clarke, Assistant Secretary of the Interior, accompanied by Mr. Governor Aker and Mr. Paul Vander Myde, the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Conservation, and Mr. Robert Lake.

I will now pass the gavel to Senator McClure of Idaho, and excuse myself for a meeting of the Appropriations Committee.

Senator MCCLURE [presiding]. Will you please identify yourselves in whatever order you would like to present your testimony? You may summarize it, or whatever you are prepared to do.

Mr. CLARKE. Before proceeding, I would like to introduce the people at the table, and then I have a statement which I would like to read into the record.

To my left is Governor Aker, who is the Director of the Department of Interior's Office of Manpower Training and Youth Activities.

At my right is Paul Vander-Myde, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Conservation, Research and Education of the Department of Agriculture.

To his right, Mr. Robert Lake, Director of the Manpower and Youth Conservation programs of the Forest Service.

STATEMENT OF HON. JAMES T. CLARKE, ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR; ACCOMPANIED BY GOVERNOR H. AKER; AND PAUL VANDER MYDE

Mr. CLARKE. It is a privilege for me to appear before this distinguished committee of the Senate to testify on S. 1871, a bill to amend the Youth Conservation Corps Act of 1972, to authorize on a permanent basis annual appropriations for $150 million for the Youth Conservation Corps program.

Mr. Chairman, as you know, this is the third year for the YCC program. This summer, we are jointly operating, with the Department of Agriculture, 102 camps. These camps are accommodating over 3,500 young men and women from all the 50 States, the District of Columbia, American Samoa, the Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico. Most of these camps are residential and coeducational.

Mr. Chairman, we are pleased with the progress of this program during its first 2 years of operation. It has been successful in meeting many of the objectives of the original legislation and while we are continually attempting to improve the administration of the program, we are pleased to be able to report that it has been, and continues to be, a well-administered program.

The progress of the program to date relates directly to the recognition by Congress, as implemented by the Departments of Agriculture and Interior, that a well-planned and deliberate approach was necessary in order to design and implement a cost-effective program.

Such an approach was also necessary to iron out the inevitable administrative and operational problems which will occur in any new program.

As you know, we did experience some difficulties in implementing this program during the first 2 years of its pilot operation. However, the evaluation results show that continual improvement in the program occurred in 1972, the second year of the program, from the experience gained in 1971.

Further improvement as we implement the recommendations of the earlier evaluations is expected in this summer's program.

In spite of the progress of the program during the past 2 years, we do not recommend passage of this proposed legislation in its present form. As you know, Public Law 92–597 authorized $60 million for the YCC program for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1974. We believe it is important to maintain fiscal flexibility in determining the future funding level for the program.

We, therefore, recommend that further authorization levels be for "such sums as may be necessary." However, if the committee feels that this program should be continued at the current level of $60 million, the Department would have no objection.

Enactment of the legislation in its present form would be unwise for four reasons.

First, despite the considerable capability and dedication of our staff personnel, we could not expand the program from its current level of funding to the level proposed without seriously diluting the program quality and encountering serious administrative and operational difficulties.

Senator HASKELL. Could I interrupt you for just a moment for a question? I understand this year you requested $10 million instead of $60 million. You are now saying $60 million is acceptable to the Department?

Mr. CLARKE. As the on-going authorization level. We would stand by our budget request for next summer, which would be $10 million; that would be a tripling of this year's program—$7 million is the Federal share, $3 million would go to the States.

Senator HASKELL. I thought you just said you would support a program at the $60 million level; but I guess I misunderstood you. Am I correct?

Mr. CLARKE. A continuation of the program at that authorized level would be sufficient, in our opinion, for the present time. For next summer, we would support a $10 million funding level.

Senator HASKELL. What was your request for this year in the budget?

Mr. CLARKE. $10 million.

Senator HASKELL. You requested $10 million but you now say you could use $60 million. Is that right?

Mr. CLARKE. Not for next year; no, sir. We would be prepared after that, depending upon the funding that would be finally approved, to expand beyond the $10 million.

Senator HASKELL. You have got me thoroughly confused, and maybe it is my fault. But I understood the administration's request for the program, for the fiscal year that we now happen to be in, was $10 million.

Mr. CLARKE. That is correct.

Senator HASKELL. And then I thought I just heard you say that you could use $60 million.

Mr. CLARKE. Not for next year; no, sir.

Senator HASKELL. You could not. Proceed.

Mr. CLARKE. As a result, we would run the risk of failing to meet the hopes and expectations of this act as well as our own personal standards of excellence.

From the standpoint of fiscal integrity, we also believe that immediate expansion of the program to the level proposed is unwise.

As you well know, we are experiencing in every program area of the budget severe fiscal constraints. The inflationary pressures of the economy together with the limited financial resources at our disposal dictate that we must exercise fiscal restraint.

We cannot, therefore, support any spending authorization which does not take into account the overall ceiling on our financial resources.

Senator HASKELL. Again, let me interrupt, Mr. Secretary. I keep hearing about fiscal restraint, and I am all for fiscal restraint. But we have a program that has apparently been a great success, and it seems to me, when you have youth involved, and the program cuts across socio-economic lines, which the youngsters, themselves, like, which the citizens in the communities like, this is not the place to talk about fiscal restraint.

So, I am particularly interested in hearing what you think you can productively spend—I do not think you could call them students—but for participants in the program you think you could productively carry on. That is what I am interested in.

Fiscal restraint is fine, but when you have got a program that is meaningful and has the backing not only of the participants but also the local citizenry—I get awfully tired of this fiscal restraint.

So, please address yourself, if you would, to what level can you efficiently carry on the program?

Mr. CLARKE. Senator, we are gaining more experience every year. Next year, we believe tripling the size of the program is a level of effort that is commensurate with our known capabilities right now.

Beyond that level, we would consider next year's experience and the completion of this year's experience as the basis for our budget submission. Under no circumstances do we believe right now we could operationally maintain the same quality program above the current authorization level, $60 million. We have no basis for going beyond it at the moment.

Senator HASKELL. Finish with your prepared statement, and then we will have questions later.

Mr. CLARKE. The third reason why we are concerned with the proposed legislation is that it would provide for a permanent grant program for State projects. In the fiscal year 1974 program, funds will be available for State grants on a pilot basis. That is next summer.

As you know, as yet, we have no experience with State grant programs. This new aspect deserves the same careful study and development as was provided in the original, pilot YCC program.

Accordingly, we recommend that this State grant program not be made permanent at this time as contemplated in S. 1871, but rather, be continued for the moment on a pilot basis.

Lastly, we believe it is incumbent on us to continually evaluate the program's effectiveness and our capability for delivery.

Some of the questions which we believe merit continuing examination and consideration I might footnote this remark by saying we need to continue to examine our capability for maintaining an effective program.

The things we expect to continue to look at include: (1) the long-term effects on the knowledge, attitude, and behavior of the participants; (2) the most effective kinds, size, and length of camps; (3) the comparative effectiveness of the various educational aspects of YCC; (4) the best way to assure effective approaches to the educational parts of the program; (5) salary level that is appropriate for the participants; (6) ways in which work done by YCC participants can be directed toward the highest priority needs of the agencies; and, (7) the costs of YCC work if obtained by customary means.

In our program, to date, we have learned through the University of Michigan evaluation and other monitoring devices that the benefits which these youths have gained from the program have been worthwhile.

Learning to live with other young people representing all walks of life and all economic and racial backgrounds, discovering what it means to do a day's work for a day's pay, as well as being involved with the problems which face the Nation's environment are experiences that can provide these young people with a new respect for our natural heritage and an awareness of their responsibilities as citizens of the United States.

The University of Michigan report of the 1972 program pointed out that the environmental knowledge of Corps members in each grade level increased approximately to the levels of Corps members 1 year ahead of them.

The report concludes, based on these and other findings, that the learning of Corps members was equivalent to one academic year in a normal school setting. This indicates that young people can learn while doing, and this learning may be reinforced by a healthful outdoor atmosphere and good, old, honest hard work.

Mr. Chairman, the Department of the Interior firmly believes in the need to conserve, preserve, and maintain our vast natural resources and to protect our environment for the future of our young citizens.

Senate bill 1871 should, therefore, be geared to coincide with the capabilities of the Departments to develop an orderly program consistent with the fiscal realities which we face.

We believe that a gradual development will enable us to maintain the quality of the program through continued evaluation. We feel that if we go too far, too fast, many of these goals may be lost.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Senator McCLURE. Mr. Clarke, we have a rollcall in progress on the floor of the Senate, and Senator Haskell and I will have to go and vote.

We would like to return, if the panel members can remain, and hear the others.

Mr. CLARKE. We will be pleased to do so.

Senator McCLURE. The committee will stand in recess.

[A recess was taken.]

Mr. VERKLER. Ladies and gentlemen, I am staff director of the committee, Jerry Verkler.

The Senators are still tied up on the floor of the Senate, and we are hopeful they will be able to get back here in order to conclude the hearing.

But, in order not to inconvenience you people who have to catch buses, and so forth, we have decided to go ahead and finish the statements of the administration witnesses.

The chairman made reference to "This is Be Kind to Republicans Week," and we will have "Be Kind to Staff Day," and let the staff proceed, and we have Mr. Denny Miller of Senator Jackson's office, and Mr. Doug Smith from Senator McClure's staff.

We have concluded the formal statement of Assistant Secretary Clarke. Do any of other gentleman have formal statements?

Mr. VANDER MYDE. Paul Vander Myde is my name.

Mr. VERKLER. Proceed.

Mr. VANDER MYDE. I would like to further introduce the gentleman on my right, who is Mr. Robert Lake, who is Director of our manpower and youth conservation programs of the U.S. Forest Service, who has had the overall responsibility for directing the U.S. Forest Service's share of the program.

STATEMENT OF PAUL VANDER MYDE, DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR CONSERVATION, RESEARCH, AND EDUCATION, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE; ACCOMPANIED BY ROBERT LAKE

Mr. VANDER MYDE. Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, we appreciate this opportunity to participate in the consideration of legislation to expand the Youth Conservation Corps, a program which this Department jointly administers with the Department of the Interior.

As you know, this summer, we are completing the third and final year of the YCC pilot program, authorized by Public Law 91–378. At this moment, some 3,500 young men and women, representing all socio-economic levels and races, are engaged in conservation work-learning projects across the country at 102 YCC camps.

Approximately 1,800 of these Corps members are in Forest Service-administered camps. This brings the total employment figure for the 3-year pilot program to 9,771 youths.

The Department of Agriculture is pleased with the development and results of the YCC pilot program. In the first 2 years, $4,464,000 worth of high-priority conservation work has been accomplished on Federal lands.

This means that for every dollar spent on the program, approximately 70 cents was returned to the Government in the form of conservation works and improvements on the public lands.

But the program has not been valuable only in terms of work accomplished. Independent analysis of the YCC program by the University of Michigan concluded that in 1972 Corps members made gains in environmental knowledge approximately equal to a full year of high school.

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We believe these accomplishments of the YCC pilot program are the result of working at manageable program levels, and that the experience gained through the pilot program provides us a sound and orderly base for the 1974 program.

While initial results of the pilot program are positive and encouraging, these results do not sufficiently support the need for a greatly expanded YCC program. Research by the Institute of Social Research of the University of Michigan indicates that more evaluation is needed before a comprehensive, full-scale YCC effort is considered.

For example, in its evaluation of the 1972 Youth Conservation Corps, the university recommended that further research be conducted on the length of camps, the residential nature and size of camps, the long-range impact on the value of the program for Corps members, and the special needs of American Indian and black youth which are not being met by the YCC program.

The report also indicated that the educational aspect of the program needs additional administrative attention to assure that it is offering a fully integrated work-learning experience.

Also, in the fiscal year 1974 program, funds will be available for a State grant pilot program. This is a new aspect of the YCC program which deserves the same careful study and development as that provided the pilot Youth Conservation Corps program.

In conclusion, this Department does not recommend the enactment of S. 1871 in its present form. The $150 million annual appropriation authorization which is proposed in S. 1871 far exceeds the capabilities of the Departments of Agriculture and Interior to responsibly and effectively administer the Youth Conservation Corps program.

It is our opinion, based on experience to date, that the most effective approach to an expanded YCC would be a gradual development of the program coupled with continued evaluation. To dramatically increase the level of funding could seriously dilute program quality and produce numerous administrative and operational difficulties.

As you know, Public Law 92-597 authorized $60 million for the Youth Conservation Corps for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1974. In determining future program levels, we believe it is most desirable to maintain adequate flexibility for funding YCC.

Therefore, we recommend that future authorization levels be for "such sums as may be necessary." However, if the committee feels that this program should be continued at the current level of $60 million, the Department of Agriculture would have no objection.

This concludes my prepared statement. I will be pleased to answer any questions you may have at this time.

Mr. VERKLER. Do the agencies have any kind of understanding or commitment in the Office of Management and Budget as to how they feel about the permanency of the program, even if we cut down the authorization of the $60 million that was authorized through the end of this year; that is, an authorization that you requested and received approval for $10 million for this year.

So, obviously, that is one-sixth of what you were provided, according to your testimony. So, $150 million you feel is out of the question.

What kind of a level are you prepared to support—No. 1, are you in favor of the permanent program; and, No. 2, at which levels are we actually talking about.

Mr. CLARKE. I believe the results of the pilot program, for the past 3 years have met the expectations of the legislation. On that basis we believe the continuation of the program, as we presently understand it, is appropriate.

I think the basic question which we all must face is at what level of effort in the ensuing years can we: (1) operationally accommodate; and (2) financially afford?

Now, the operational aspects of it we have testified previously. We are in a position to gear up the program over a period of time. We have looked at various planning levels, what we would be able to accomplish. A lot of it is subjective judgment. We believe we could make the program grow.

At the same time, the budgetary process, as you well know, is an annual event. We are now in the middle of the 1975 fiscal year budget process. The Departments of Interior and Agriculture have not yet met to formulate their budgets with respect to this program; in fact, that would be premature since we have no authorization for fiscal 1975.

At the point at which we have an authorization level, we would then include that in our budgetary considerations, and that budget submission, a joint submission of our two Departments, would then go into the administration's budget process, and the funding level would be the result of that process.

Mr. VERKLER. No. 1, the administration does feel this has been a successful program, a good investment in both natural resources and human resources, and you agree with the Chairman and those who introduced the bill that I think this committee strongly supports, that there should be a permanent program?

Mr. CLARKE. Maybe its semantics, Mr. Verkler—I am not a legislative expert, but we are led to believe we have a permanent program by virtue of Public Law 92–597, which did, in fact, establish within our two Departments, Agriculture and Interior, a Youth Conservation Corps.

The open question is a level of funding. So, by virtue of the President's signature on that legislation, and our interpretation of the act under which we are operating, we believe we have a permanent program.

Mr. MILLER. I am Denny Miller from Senator Jackson's personal office.

One of the things I would like to clarify at this point—is that under Public Law 92–597, which is the existing Youth Conservation Corps Act, as amended, the authorization for that program expires, which is why we are here today.

But I have a couple of questions I would like to follow up on, that Senator Haskell began, and actually Senator Jackson asked that we ask in his absence. I would like to address this to Secretary Clarke.

Mr. Secretary, you have indicated you prefer the financial authorization under this legislation be changed from $150 million to "such sums as are necessary." Does this infer that you would support a program to at least the $60 million level, as contained in the public law?

Mr. CLARKE. Are you talking from the point of view of the Department or the administration's budget submission?

Mr. MILLER. At this point, what you have indicated in your report on the bill, you would not oppose enactment of this legislation at the present authorizing level?

Mr. CLARKE. That is right.

Mr. MILLER. So, you are saying, you would support the authorization at that level?

Mr. CLARKE. That is correct.

Mr. MILLER. If the Congress were to authorize the level you propose: that is, the $60 million, would the Department request that full authorization in fiscal 1975?

Mr. CLARKE. Let me answer from two viewpoints; one, from an operational standpoint, we probably would pick somewhere in between the present level and $6 million. Presently, we have been looking at $40 million in a planning mode.

There are several considerations that the committee ought to be aware of in gearing up the program. First, since it is presently conceived as only part of the year, it means that we do not have permanent staff to run the camps, we cannot afford construction costs for permanent facilities.

So, while we are complaining, the fact is, in order to expand the program, we must provide for additional housing accommodations, we must provide for the tools and supplies that are needed, we have to train the leaders, and we have got to provide transportation.

If you look at the Michigan evaluation, you will discover a very high correlation between the satisfaction that individual corps members had and their subsequent learning experience.

If you look further, you will discover that the cause for dissatisfaction were such things as poorly trained leaders, having to wait for supplies; the kind of administrative problems that a greatly expanded program could produce.

We tried to look at this realistically, and we believe that, operationally, we could sustain perhaps in 1975 a program of around $40 million.

Now, in terms of the budget submission, we do not have at the moment, either a departmental or an administration position. We have not formulated our 1975 budget.

I can say, as program manager, that there is not anyone in the Department of the Interior who does not believe they deserve more money for their program, and that is the environment that this program will be confronted with.

Mr. MILLER. Let me ask one more question. Senator Jackson asked me to get this for the record, and that is, what your capabilities would be for expending funds in Fiscal 1975; your request in 1974 is $10 million. But for fiscal 1974 we would appreciate for the record a list of capabilities.

And let me ask one more question, if I might. The report which I have seen from the University of Michigan indicates that approximately 70 cents on the dollar was returned to the Federal Government in improvements in natural resources.

Based on that study, an appropriation of $60 million really means an expenditure by the Federal Government of $18 million; in other words, 72 percent of $42 million would be returned to the Federal Government from that $60 million.

Mr. CLARKE. There is also another way to look at that, Mr. Miller. If, in fact—and the program does have its values. We are very proud of what the Departments have done in the past. But, at the same time, we do not believe our individual bureaus would be willing at the moment to reduce their appropriation levels by the 70 cents or the equivalent of 70 cents to be replaced by this funding. And it is that kind of an appropriation budgetary conflict that we have.

So, I agree with you, in terms of value received, the program has demonstrated that it does return benefits to the natural environment in terms of the capital investment of our respective bureaus.

At the same time, there has been no evidence that those bureaus are willing to reduce their expenditures to compensate for cost to the program.

Mr. MILLER. All I am trying to establish, then, is that the actual cost to the Federal Government, funded at $60 million, because of the return on that investment, would only be $18 million. Is that correct?

Mr. CLARKE. I think that is 70 percent.

Mr. MILLER. All right.

Mr. SMITH. I am Doug Smith, on the staff of Senator McClure.

I would like to address this to Mr. Vander Myde. The panel has touched on some of the difficulties that you envision in drastically expanding this program.

And, previously, we heard the testimony of the youth who thoroughly endorse the program, and they wish it could be made available to more of their colleagues in the schools.

In view of the situation in the Department of Agriculture, for example, it has been noted by the testimony that there are at least 5 million acres of forest land that could be planted and contribute to the timber needs of our country. In view of this do you not feel that a seasonally managed program for young people, that this would not be a worthwhile project to work on?

I was interested in the comment just made, of the difficulty with the budget in reducing items either in Interior or Agriculture. It seems to me, it might be a fair statement to say instead of reducing the budget by Agriculture, who complains they do not have enough money at different times to accomplish all of the things it would like to accomplish, why not keep the budget at the same level and supplement it with the tremendous and willing work force that seems to be available for the job that needs to be done of upgrading our timber lands, with the need that is expressed for the additional services?

That is not quite a question, but possibly you could address yourself to that.

Mr. VANDER MYDE. Mr. Smith, I believe your Senator has a very good point, and it is one in which I think work has all ready been accomplished. In looking at the statistics that are available to me, summarizing the work accomplishments for the summer of 1972, there was approximately 517 acres of land which was given soil erosion control treatment, and tree planting amounted to 501 acres.

And we can go on down the line in terms of accomplishments of this type such as timber stand improvement on 1,517 acres. So, I think it is a point that it is all ready receiving attention.

Mr. SMITH. Applying that to the several million acres of land that do need work, the program certainly does not lack for the availability.

Mr. VANDER MYDE. That is true.

Mr. SMITH. You say you think part of the problem is in terms of meeting the need, of enthusiasm of those who would like the availability of this program, is the necessary personnel to administer it on the field level. Is that part of the problem you are having regarding this.

Mr. VANDER MYDE. Yes. Part of the problems we face and, that Mr. Clarke has touched on are with respect to staff, the availability of facilities, the tools, supplies to work with, and transportation. I think all of these are factors to be considered.

Mr. SMITH. Having worked some 25 years ago in such a program, I do not recall that I felt, as a youth, being disappointed that there was not a first-class place to have over my head.

In other words, I am wondering what is the level that is anticipated in terms of housing that these people need to attend camp. Is it a tent camp, or a permanent structure, or what?

Mr. VANDER MYDE. Let me have Mr. Lake respond to that.

Mr. LAKE. The needs of the youth are being met through temporary facilities, such as tent camps, or through rehabilitation of some existing facilities to make them suitable for Youth Conservation Corps projects.

Of course, along with that you have to have proper sewage facilities, proper mess facilities, and these have to be considered.

Mr. SMITH. If these facilities could be made available through this additional funding as part of the bill, do you feel this could escalate beyond your capabilities? I do not know whether or not it would be fair to assume, if the additional money were made available for the accelerated planning process, that these things might fit into place at some not too distant time. The youth, who are really the beneficiaries of the program, and who also contribute so much, to the land in terms of improvement; that these things could all go hand in hand, and the youth would benefit by the expanded program, and also the land would be that much more improved.

Mr. AKER. What you say is true. I also want you to consider the fact that we are in a short, summertime program at the present time, and to escalate to the level of the authorization of the present bill, as indicated, would be rather difficult for us to put all of this together in such a time that we could still administer a quality program.

Now, we would like, or our experience to date has indicated we need, small, manageable camps. We have found through considerable experimentation that about a 50-man camp is adequate to keep it all together.

Now, if we go into large administrative complexes, I am afraid we would lose an awful lot of what we have gained so far as far as the program, itself, is concerned, and the satisfaction that is attached to those programs for the participants in those programs.

Mr. MILLER. I have a couple more questions, again, sir, that Senator Jackson asked me to bring up. I would like to say that the reason I brought up this total expenditure question is because there is a perfect example going on right now at the C. & O. Canal, where the Youth Corps enrollees are working to improve certain parts of the canal, that you would not be working on otherwise because there is no money in the budget.

So, really what you are spending, the maximum, is 30 cents on the dollar to get work done which would not be done otherwise. So, that is one of the points I was trying to make.

I would like to ask this of Secretary Clarke. I noted in the report that you recommended the State grant part of this legislation be on a pilot rather than a permanent basis.

Is it not true that many of the States already have smaller natural resources youth conservation programs funded entirely by the States, and that they have the necessary experience to qualify under this cost-sharing program, as provided in S. 1871?

Mr. CLARKE. I am advised there are programs in the various States. In fact, several of the States do have mechanisms for putting such a program into existence.

At the same time, the Departments of Interior and Agriculture have no experience in that program, and while there is great enthusiasm in the States because it does represent additional potential moneys for the conduct of these programs, we would like to proceed in an orderly, cautious way.

If the program program proves its merit, we would fully intend to support its continuation at that time.

Mr. MILLER. Based upon that answer and the qualifications of the States, is it not also true that a recent survey of all the State agencies showed that they had the necessary funding and the interest to put 180,000 young people to work under the State cost-sharing program each summer if Federal matching funds were available.

Mr. CLARKE. Which report are you referring to?

Mr. MILLER. A study that was done actually by contacting the Governors' representatives on youth programs, youth and manpower programs, I believe, of 1971.

Mr. AKER. Yes. That is true. The Governors did indicate that they would like to participate in the program. They are very interested in it. But they did not say they had the money available for matching Federal funds for the Youth Conservation Corps at the time.

I am sure they are waiting for our guidelines, which will be out directly, as soon as we can get them cleared through both Departments for State participation in the grant program.

Mr. MILLER. Do you have any estimate at this time, based on your work relationships with the States, as to what their capability might be, a 50-to-50 or 80-to-20 posture?

Mr. AKER. Right at this time, Denny, we only have—for instance, our Arizona contact said they would like to have 3,500 slots, or the equivalent thereof, as far as the money is concerned.

Ohio has contacted us, and said they would run a considerably larger program. As far as all the States are concerned, we have very little to report on, except that our initial contacts indicated they were interested; yes.

They did not put a figure forward, but they were relating to the number of kids they felt would be interested in the program, rather than that which could be funded at that time.

Mr. MILLER. A letter just went out from Senator Jackson earlier this week to all 50 Governors, asking for a reassessment of their capability in terms of both manpower and funding under the Federal cost-sharing program.

Mr. VERKLER. Is it your position, basically, just as the YCC program started out as a pilot program, that this phase should be worked in by starting it out as a pilot program?

Mr. CLARKE. That is correct.

Mr. VERKLER. I do not think there is any doubt about the commitment of the committee to this program. We are pleased that the Departments feel it is making a worthwhile contribution.

For the benefit of the young people who are in the audience, this is not intended to be a civics lesson, but I have been with the staff now for several years, and I can remember 5 or 6 years ago, back in the room here that is now a library, when Senator Jackson first spelled out his goals in bringing this program before the committee for the very first time.

So, what we have witnessed over the years is an idea from its very conception to a program we think is very much in the public interest, and in the interest of the resources and the people, the young people.

We are confident at the staff level and the committee level they are going to move on this very quickly, probably as soon as the committee returns from the August recess we will begin marking up this bill.

We will leave the record open for 2 weeks for submissions if anyone wants to submit any additional information, and if the Departments have any additional information they want to submit, we will be glad to have it.

Anything else?

Mr. SMITH. One question. In view of the panel bringing up the problems that they see in funding or managing in additional funding, I think it would be helpful if they could add to the record some suggestions for what would be needed to be done to manage a fully funded program, and to take care of the demand that has been exhibited by the young people to have such a program.

I think that might be helpful in view of answering their own question that they have raised.

Mr. VERKLER. That would be helpful to have, and particularly if we could have it before the 1st of September.

Mr. CLARKE. We will forward that to the committee.

[The material referred to above appears in the appendix on pp. 46–66.]

Mr. VERKLER. The hearing is recessed, subject to recall of the Chair.

[Whereupon, at 4:20 p.m., the hearing was recessed, subject to the call of the Chair.]

APPENDIX

[Under authority previously granted, the following statements and communications were ordered printed:]

AUG 28 1973

Dear Mr. Chairman:

At the hearing on S. 1871, a bill to expand and make permanent the Youth Conservation Corps, witnesses from the Departments of Agriculture and the Interior were asked to make available to the Committee additional information on our capability to expand the Youth Conservation Corps program in Fiscal Year 1975 and to provide some suggestions on what would be needed to manage a fully funded program.

A joint response from the Departments of Agriculture and the Interior is enclosed for inclusion in the record.

Sincerely yours,

John C. Whitaker

Acting Secretary of the Interior

Earl L. Butz

Secretary of Agriculture

Hon. Henry M. Jackson
Chairman, Interior and Insular
Affairs Committee
United States Senate
Washington, D. C. 20510

Enclosure

QUESTION: Suggestions for what would be needed to manage a fully funded program of $150 million.

ANSWER: An immediate expansion to a $150 million annual appropriation would place a severe strain on the Departments' present resources to effectively and efficiently operate the YCC program. In order to manage a program at this level of funding the Departments would require additional support in the following areas:

1. Facilities - Residential camps provide the greatest opportunity for well-balanced and meaningful experiences in work/learning/living programs. A YCC program at a $150 million annual appropriation would require approximately 2,000 camps for the Federal portion of the program. Present residential facilities are limited, therefore, there would be a need to invest in new facilities or to upgrade existing facilities to meet acceptable standards. While this investment could be minimized by the use of tent camps, the expense of sanitation facilities, particularly for co-educational camps, would be a restricting factor. There would also be a need to make maximum use of the residential facilities of institutions of higher learning or public schools, especially those which are located in close proximity to Federal or State lands.

2. Equipment - Securing adequate fleet equipment at reasonable cost is one of the most serious needs in the YCC program. Extensive efforts are required to obtain vehicles for the program. Sources checked have been agency fleets, GSA, military (including National Guard and Reserve Units), local school systems, and rental or lease sources.

We have been able in some cases to obtain logistical support, i. e., vehicles, hand tools, hard hats, gloves, tents, etc., from the Department of Defense and other agencies. However, in a greatly expanded program, the amount of logistical support we would need would require an agreement with DOD and other supply agencies to commit such support on a timely basis. The cost of obtaining these supplies and materials from other sources and maintaining them for future use would be prohibitive for an eight week program.

3. Staffing - The larger the program becomes, the greater the demand for well qualified staff. At the $150 million funding level, there would be a need to identify additional sources from which to select qualified staff with the capability to effectively work with young people and meet the requirements of the program.

Additionally, this funding level would require a greatly expanded staff training program. In order to train the number of staff necessary, we would need a training cadre with the capability to train camp staff in a relatively short period of time.

In preparing for the 1973 program, we utilized staff members with YCC camp experience to train new staff. All indications are that this

training was most effective. A gradual increase in program expansion would allow us to acquire a training cadre from staff who have had field experience.

4. Impact on existing work force - Full time technical assistance and supervision from the Departments is required to plan, coordinate, and conduct work projects to meet program standards and requirements. The necessary diversion to YCC of regular or permanent work force personnel will have a major impact on the agencies. For a $150 million funding level, we estimate a need for 5,000 regular work force personnel to provide support on a full time basis during the 8 weeks of YCC operations. The agencies would need time to fill the void created by the assignment of regular personnel whose efforts would be redirected to provide this technical support for the YCC program.

The Departments feel that a gradual program expansion would provide the lead time needed to gear the work project requirements to the demands on agency permanent personnel.

5. Diluting program quality - The Departments feel that working at manageable levels in the pilot program has contributed to the successful accomplishments of YCC. The experience gained to date provides a solid base for the 1974 program. There is a possibility that we may dilute the quality of the program, if we expand too rapidly to a $150 million funding level. We feel that the most effective approach is to continue to expand and evaluate within the capabilities of the Departments. We are especially interested in continuing with small, personalized camps or projects to maintain the present character of the YCC. The desirability of smaller camps is made repeatedly by both corps members and staff participants.

QUESTION: What is your capability for program expansion in FY 1975?

ANSWER: The Department of the Interior and the Department of Agriculture will make every effort to meet the mandates of Congress at whatever level of funding is authorized for the YCC program. In response to previous requests from the Congress for information concerning expansion capabilities, the Departments conducted a field survey which identified a capacity to accommodate approximately 21,000 youth on 550 projects on Federal lands. The survey includes camp locations, facilities which could be rehabilitated at a modest cost for co-educational residential programs or tent camp construction, work project identification, and the capability of the agencies to provide technical support.

This capability assumes financing of approximately $30 million for the Federal portion of the program, the availability of adequate personnel ceilings, and receipt of funds at least six months in advance of camp opening to provide sufficient time to prepare new camps. At the $30 million level, a total appropriation of $43 million would be needed to fully fund the Federal and State portions of the program. Assuming an average cost of $1500 per youth, and the States operate their portion of the program on the basis of a 50-50 matching grant, the State programs could accommodate 15,667 youth. Therefore, a $43 million program would provide YCC opportunities to 37,030 youth. (Attachment 1 summarizes this analysis).

The Departments have also developed tentative distributions of YCC slots and grants by State at higher funding levels. These projections are based solely on the teenage population and amount of Federal land in each State. No field surveys have been conducted to identify specific camp locations, nor has the cost of developing the camp sites to a satisfactory quality level been determined. In addition, we have conducted surveys to determine the availability of meaningful work projects for the YCC participants. Attachments 2 and 3 describe the amount and kinds of work projects available on lands under the jurisdiction of the Department of the Interior and the Forest Service, USDA, for YCC participation.

ATTACHMENT 1

INTERIOR-AGRICULTURE CAPABILITY FOR AN EXPANDED PROGRAM

The Department of the Interior and the Forest Service, USDA, have identified, as a result of a field survey compiled in January 1973, a capability to accommodate approximately 21,000 youths on 550 projects on Federal lands. A summary of this preliminary capability survey by states follows:

STATE	NUMBER OF PROJECTS	NUMBER OF YOUTH SLOTS
ALABAMA	7	285
ALASKA	14	524
ARIZONA	19	688
ARKANSAS	11	320
CALIFORNIA	47	1,814
COLORADO	36	1,195
CONNECTICUT	-	-
DELAWARE	2	55
FLORIDA	10	317
GEORGIA	4	170
DIST. OF COLUMBIA	1	50
HAWAII	3	90
IDAHO	22	649
ILLINOIS	3	250
INDIANA	5	205
IOWA	2	50
KANSAS	5	235
KENTUCKY	4	245
LOUSIANA	4	112
MAINE	3	105
MARYLAND	3	175
MASSACHUSETTS	6	150
MICHIGAN	12	415
MINNESOTA	6	345
MISSISSIPPI	9	320
MISSOURI	11	465
MONTANA	27	1,120
NEBRASKA	5	173
NEVADA	11	370
NEW HAMPSHIRE	2	50
NEW JERSEY	5	230
NEW MEXICO	21	1,200
NEW YORK	7	170
NORTH CAROLINA	11	355
NORTH DAKOTA	7	312
OHIO	4	150
OKLAHOMA	18	805
OREGON	43	1,331
PENNSYLVANIA	10	430
PUERTO RICO	1	24
RHODE ISLAND	-	-
SOUTH CAROLINA	8	345
SOUTH DAKOTA	9	489

STATE	NUMBER OF PROJECTS	NUMBER OF YOUTH SLOTS
TENNESSEE	10	287
TEXAS	15	460
UTAH	19	961
VERMONT	2	80
VIRGINIA	7	320
WASHINGTON	29	985
WEST VIRGINIA	6	388
WISCONSIN	9	352
WYOMING	17	672
VIRGIN ISLANDS	1	25
AMERICAN SAMOA	1	50
TOTAL OR AVERAGE	554	21,363

The following summary outlines the number of Federal positions and State Grant funds for the State program by States at the $43 million funding level:

STATE	FEDERAL POSITIONS	STATE GRANTS ($ THOUSANDS)
ALABAMA	285	185
ALASKA	524	50
ARIZONA	688	50
ARKANSAS	320	50
CALIFORNIA	1,814	600
COLORADO	1,195	50
CONNECTICUT	-	270
DELAWARE	55	65
FLORIDA	317	360
GEORGIA	170	320
HAWAII	90	65
IDAHO	649	50
ILLINOIS	250	790
INDIANA	205	350
IOWA	50	245
KANSAS	235	103
KENTUCKY	245	180
LOUSIANA	112	300
MAINE	110	75
MARYLAND	170	252
MASSACHUSETTS	150	375
MICHIGAN	415	550
MINNESOTA	345	180
MISSISSIPPI	320	80
MISSOURI	465	165
MONTANA	1,120	50
NEBRASKA	173	80
NEVADA	370	50
NEW HAMPSHIRE	50	75
NEW JERSEY	230	445
NEW MEXICO	1,200	50
NEW YORK	170	1,210
NORTH CAROLINA	355	280
NORTH DAKOTA	312	50
OHIO	150	790
OKLAHOMA	805	50
OREGON	1,331	50
PENNSYLVANIA	430	700
RHODE ISLAND	-	115
SOUTH CAROLINA	345	95
SOUTH DAKOTA	489	50
TENNESSEE	287	210
TEXAS	460	630
UTAH	961	50

STATE	FEDERAL POSITIONS	STATE GRANTS ($ THOUSANDS)
VERMONT	80	50
VIRGINIA	320	240
WASHINGTON	985	50
WEST VIRGINIA	388	50
WISCONSIN	352	220
WYOMING	672	50
DIST. OF COLUMBIA	50	50
PUERTO RICO	24	50
AMERICAN SAMOA	50	50
GUAM	-	50
TRUST TERRITORIES	-	50
VIRGIN ISLANDS	25	50
TOTAL	21,363	$11,750

ATTACHMENT 2

The Forest Service has a backlog inventory of unfinanced, needed conservation work requiring an estimated 260,000 man-years of effort. A great amount of this needed work could be accomplished by the Youth Conservation Corps youth. Examples of needed project work inventoried follow:

PROJECT	UNITS	MAN YEARS
Reforestation and Improvement of Timber Stands	20,000,000 acres	118,000 MY
Fish and Wildlife Habitat Improvement		14,000 MY
Trail Construction and Betterment	74,000 miles	39,000 MY
Rehabilitation and Stabilization of Roads, Stream Banks, and Erosion Control		47,000 MY
Recreation Sites Improvement and Cleanup	175,000 acres	450 MY
Flow Regulation Structures (other than water storage dams)	44,000 each	10,000 MY

ATTACHMENT 3

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

PROPOSED PROJECTS

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

Camp and Picnic Grounds: Will consist of providing new camp and picnic grounds and the rehabilitation of some existing sites. It involves grounds preparation and installation of such facilities as fireplaces, picnic tables, etc.

Total estimated - 9,820 sites

Minor Structures and Signs: Includes the construction of small structures such as trail shelters, foot bridges, comfort stations, ranger cabins, fire lookouts, etc. Also the construction and direction of signs.

Total estimated - 9,945 signs and structures

Historical and Archeological Work: Archeological remains in many known sites are threatened with damage or loss through construction activities, or inundation by lakes created by new dams. There are also protected sites that need further investigation and preservation. Much common and skilled labor is needed for digging, salvaging, preserving, these sites and the artifacts taken therefrom. Also this Service has numerous historic structures and sites that need preserving. In many instances partial or total restoration of historic structures is planned.

Total estimated - 858 man years

New Minor Roads and Trails: This is the construction of back country roads and trails for fire control, ranger protection work, saddle horse use, visitor hiking, and other miscellaneous management purposes. The type and standard to be determined by the particular need.

Total estimated - 1,153 miles

General Grounds Improvements: This work consists of the developing and improving of grounds around existing structures such as historic homes, memorials, monuments, etc., and those grounds surrounding new areas, etc. The usual landscaping chores are all involved, such as grading, seeding, sodding, fertilizing, planting, drainage, etc. Much "pick and shovel" work is required.

Total estimated - 2,159 man years

Boundary Marking and Fencing: Many areas of the National Park System have inadequate boundary marking and in some cases none at all. Work includes surveying, monumenting, signing, and in some instances the erection of fencing.

Total estimated - 5,146 miles

Water Supply and Storage: Many of our wilderness areas need small water sources developed in the back country for use by campers, hikers, ranger patrols, wildlife, and forest fire fighting.

Total estimated - 659 projects

MAINTENANCE

Forest Protection: Park forests require protection from insects, disease, fire, wildlife, the elements, and man. Application of prevention and corrective measures entail treatment of diseased and insect infested trees; detection, suppression and prevention of fires; seeding and planting to rehabilitate denuded areas and to prevent soil erosion; construction of small water detentions or spreaders; pruning, thinning and doing other tree cultural work.

Total estimated - 742 man years

Vista Clearing: This project consists of selective trimming, cutting and removal of trees and bushes along the parkways, roads and trails so that visitors may better see and enjoy the parks.

Total estimated - 1, 480 miles

Grounds Maintenance: Thousands of acres of developed grounds in national memorials, cemeteries, military parks, around historic homes, etc., require treatment such as mowing, seeding, sodding, tree and shrub pruning and preservation, trimming around headstones, etc.

Total estimated - 2,041 man years

Roads and Trails Maintenance: Many miles of roads and trails in the 190 parks and other areas require daily attention involving roadside cleanup, maintenance of road shoulders, drainage measures, patching, removal of trees and brush from trails, painting and repair of bridges, etc.

Total estimated - 3,312 miles

Soil and Moisture Conservation: Many acres of park lands have, and are, deteriorating from man's use. Conservation measures are needed to restore historic farm lands, or natural conditions in scenic parks. Seeding, fertilizing, stabilizing, and maintenance of water run-off facilities are needed. Some minor structures would be built.

Total estimated - 945 man years

Wildlife Control and Protection: This is a major management responsibility in more than 50 parks. It involves research, census taking, food habit studies, migration studies, reduction of high population of animals, restoration of rare species, destruction or removal of exotics, fish planting, etc.

Total estimated - 233 man years

Building Maintenance: Consists of maintaining by carpentry, masonry, and painting a portion of the numerous buildings located in the National Park system.

Total estimated - 2,893 buildings

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

PROPOSED PROJECTS

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

Forest Development: Includes such activities as brush removal and other site clearing for reforestation. It also includes direct seeding of tree seed, the planting of tree seedlings and stand improvement work which is thinning and pruning of the timber stand.

Total estimated - 7,582,192 acres

Trail Construction: The building of livestock trails over difficult terrain in order to provide access for livestock from feed to water. It will also include the building of recreation trails in wild areas.

Total estimated - 2,133 miles

Road and Bridge Construction: The building of roads from the highest standards to the lowest jeep trail. Bridges vary from large concrete structures to small log stringer types.

Total estimated - 21,571 miles of road
1,066 bridges

Fence Construction: The building of standard four wire fences for the control of livestock and intensive management, for protection of seedings and in some cases to keep livestock from densely infested areas of poisonous weeds.

Total estimated - 116,125 miles

Range Seeding: The seeding of perennial grasses on prepared sites in the range areas.

Total estimated - 12,323,000 acres

Brush Control: Consists of the mechanical and chemical control of brush species which have a natural grass understory.

Total estimated - 32,283,000 acres

Water Management: The construction of large detention dams, diversion dams, waterspreading dikes, stockwater reservoirs, spring developments, wells and pipelines.

Total estimated - 64,575 projects

Buildings and Facilities: Include the construction of some badly needed buildings at our various district headquarters as well as fire stations and lookouts. Some buildings and many facilities will be built for the recreation program. These will run from elaborate camping grounds with running water, latrines, fireplaces, tables, etc., to the simple roadside stop.

Total estimated - 21,755 projects

MAINTENANCE

Roads and Trails: The maintaining of present and newly constructed roads and trails.

Total estimated - 586,268 miles

Fence Maintenance: The maintaining and/or reconstruction of portions of existing and newly constructed fences.

Total estimated - 123,103 miles

Maintenance of Buildings and Facilities: The maintaining of all existing and newly constructed buildings and facilities described under construction above.

Total estimated - 22,127 projects

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

PROPOSED PROJECTS

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

1. Conservation of Natural Resources on Reclamation Lands: Includes seeding of grasses to control and prevent erosion; operation of tree nurseries and planting seeds, seedlings and cuttings of trees; stream channelization and bank stabilization; building of small dams, jetties, chutes, flumes, and other water control structions; dune planting; building and placing of wind erosion barriers; making fire breaks and fighting grass fires; building protective fences; construction of log booms or comparable devices across streams and reservoirs for collection of debris; and other land or reservoir treatments to aid in conserving our natural resources and the protection of irrigation structures.

Total estimated - 162,000 acres

2. Control of Undersirable Plants: Includes operation of weed control equipment like bulldozers, root rakes, mowers, cutters, spraying devices, burners for mechanical and chemical elimination of undersirable plants such as halogeton, phreatophytes, noxious and poisonous weeds. Where feasible it will include replacement of such plants with grasses and other week competing plants which will use less water and have an economic value.

Total estimated - 160,000 acres

3. New Roads: The building of roads and parking areas in connection with the recreational use of reservoir areas. These will be mostly access roads not requiring standards of construction to meet heavy traffic requirements.

Total estimated - 830 road miles

4. Recreational Use Areas: Construction of public use facilities at existing Reclamation reservoirs by enrollees will vary according to use requirements anticipated for specific areas. Construction will include campgrounds, water supplies, sanitary facilities, fireplaces, picnic tables, picnic shelters, boat launching ramps, boat docks, and similar facilities.

Total estimated - 148 recreation use areas for construction

MAINTENANCE

1. Conservation of Natural Resources on Reclamation Lands: Includes maintenance of erosion control and water saving structure devices and equipment; maintenance of treated areas, and reworking of areas where necessary; and the

collection and disposition of debris and repair and upkeep of facilities.

Total estimated - 34,600 acres

2. Control of Undesirable Plants: Includes reworking of treated areas, maintenance of planted areas and upkeep of all equipment, devices and structures required in the operations.

Total estimated - 31,300 acres

3. Road Maintenance: Work by enrollees will be that needed to maintain access roads and parking areas in good repair. Work would include handling of materials and use of equipment for this purpose.

Total estimated - 2,375 miles

4. Maintenance of Trails: This work would include maintenance of trails in public use areas of Reclamation reservoirs. Enrollees would make periodic inspections of trails and carry out whatever minor maintenance work was required to keep them in good repair for use by the public.

Total estimated - 2,850 trails

5. Cabinsite Maintenance: This work would include maintenance of cabinsites used for recreational purposes at existing and future developed public use areas. Enrollees would repair any damage done to facilities along with other work needed consistent with public use interests and primary project needs.

Total estimated - 475 cabinsites

6. Building Maintenance: Maintenance program for existing and future buildings constructed for public use purposes will be required. The buildings involved would include those constructed as minimum basic facilities at Reclamation reservoirs.

Total estimated - 4,750 buildings

BUREAU OF SPORT FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE
BRANCH OF WILDLIFE REFUGES

PROPOSED PROJECTS

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

Impoundments: Includes the construction of levees, water control structures, canals, ditches, drains, spillways, irrigation systems, pipelines and pumps.

Total estimated - 883 miles dikes
1664 structures

Biological: Consists of mechanical, chemical and hand control or removal of brush, trees, and pest plants. Construct nesting islands and potholes for waterfowl, plow, disc, and otherwise prepare lands for cropping purposes, build wood duck nesting boxes.

Total estimated - 1,475 nesting islands
422,355 acres

Roads, Trails, Fences, and Utilities: Build roads and trails from improved paved-type to truck trails, construct bridges, fencing, electric and telephone lines.

Total estimated - 93 bridges
1,699 miles fencing
1,111 miles road

Recreation: Would include construction of vitally needed information centers, picnic tables, fireplaces, boat ramps, parking areas, display pools, restrooms, campgrounds, roadside signs.

Total estimated - 253 campsites
186 picnic tables, restrooms, etc.

MAINTENANCE

Buildings and Facilities: Would maintain all buildings by painting, building repairs, floor sanding, cleaning wells, renovating water distribution systems.

Total estimated - 986 buildings

Roads and Trails, Fencing: Rebuild truck trails, patrol roads,and fencing.

Total estimated - 3,475 miles road
2,703 fencing
5,704 posting

Biological: Farm croplands, censusing wildlife, banding birds, fire presuppression.

Total estimated - 6,417,000 grassland miles
950,000 forest acres
87,000 cropland acres

Dikes, Levees, Canals: Repair levees, canals, ditches, damaged by floods or by burrowing animals.

Total estimated - 2,351 levee miles
2,565 structures
433 bridges

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

PROPOSED PROJECTS

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

Brush Control: Consists of mechanical and chemical control of brush. This practice would afford enrollees training in the use of equipment and chemicals and education on the value of this practice to soil conservation.

Total estimated - 2,635,421 acres

Gully Control: This practice consists of various mechanical and vegetative devices to control gullies and protect stream banks.

Total estimated - 566,181 miles

Pest and Weed Control: This practice consists of controlling all types of weeds and pests such as prairie dogs, grasshoppers, etc.

Total estimated - 24,793,474 acres

Tree Planting: This practice consists of planting trees for wind breaks, gully control of soil erosion.

Total estimated - 36,899 structures

Seeding and Sodding: This practice consists of planting seed and sodding range and pasture lands by hand and mechanical means.

Total estimated - 3,258,795 acres

Structure: This practice consists of the building of various structures for the control of soil erosion.

Total estimated - 36,899 structures

Forest Regeneration, Improvement and Protection: Includes forest seeding and planting, thinning and pruning of reproduction stands, fire hazard reduction, pest control, etc. Enrollee learning would consist of forest culture techniques, use of simple tools, elements of forest pathology and entom logy and the techniques of fire presuppression.

Total estimated - 1,610,000 acres

Trails and Fire Breaks: Includes horse and foot trails, landing strips and fire breaks.

Total estimated - 750 miles construction

Truck Trails Construction: Will consist of constructing new and existing truck trails to provide access to Indian lands for forest protection, forest marketing, and recreation.

Total estimated - 7,106 miles

Water Management: Covers construction of detention dams, diversion dams, water spreading dikes, stockwater reservoirs, spring developments, wells and pipelines.

Total estimated - 11,309 projects

Range Improvements: Covers the construction of range boundary and drift fences, corrals and cattle guards for the control of livestock and intensive management; fences for the protection of seeded areas, water facilities, and range sample plots established for management purposes.

Total estimated - 95,210 miles of fence
3,150 other projects

Recreational Development: Covers the construction of picnic areas and boat landings; wildlife stocking. This work would encourage expanded use of the valuable recreational resources.

Total estimated - 16,689 projects

MAINTENANCE

Dams: This will include the repair or rehabilitation of various types of erosion control dams.

Total estimated - 168 dams

Laterals, Levees, and Dikes: This will consist of rehabilitation and repair of these erosion control structures.

Total estimated - 5,333 miles

Structures: This will consist of repair of the various erosion control structures.

Total estimated - 83,416 structures

Trails and Fire Breaks: Includes horse and foot trails, landing strips and fire breaks.

Total estimated - 740 miles maintenance

1972 YCC Program
Demographic Data

The enclosed charts provide demographic data on the Youth Conservation Corps program for 1972 as compared with the 1971 program. An increase in program performance is reflected in the 1972 program, which is a result of the continuing evaluation of the program.

Chart No. 1 illustrates the racial composition of the youth participating in the YCC program in 1972, compared to the national racial composition reflected in the 1970 census.

Chart No. 2 illustrates the enrollee distribution by sex, of the 1971 and 1972 YCC camps.

Chart No. 3 illustrates the grade level attained in public school by YCC corps members assigned to the 1971 and 1972 YCC programs.

Chart No. 4 illustrates the family income level of the participants in the 1972 YCC program.

Chart No. 5 illustrates the dropout rate in both the 1971 and 1972 YCC programs.

Chart No. 6 illustrates the area from which the enrollees were selected (urban vis-a-vis rural) for 1971 and 1972.

Chart No. 7 illustrates YCC program accomplishments for 1971 and 1972. The figures illustrate the cost of the program in comparison to the total appraised value of the work accomplished by the corpsmembers.

Chart No. 8 illustrates by categories the specific area of the nation's natural resources in which conservation work was accomplished by the YCC enrollees in 1971 and 1972.

CHART NO. 1

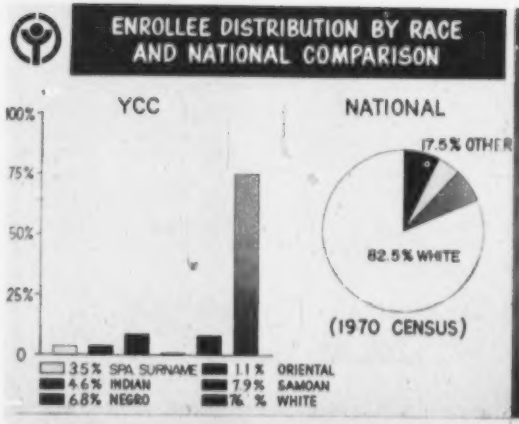
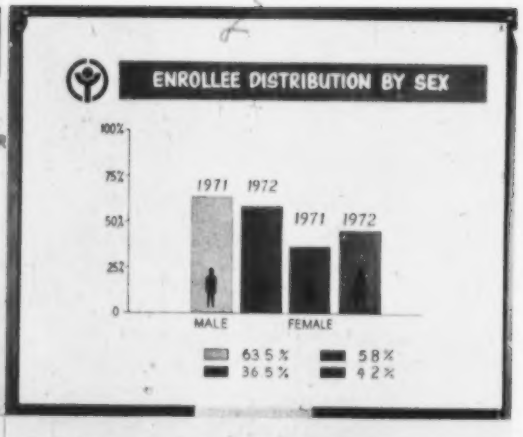


CHART NO. 2



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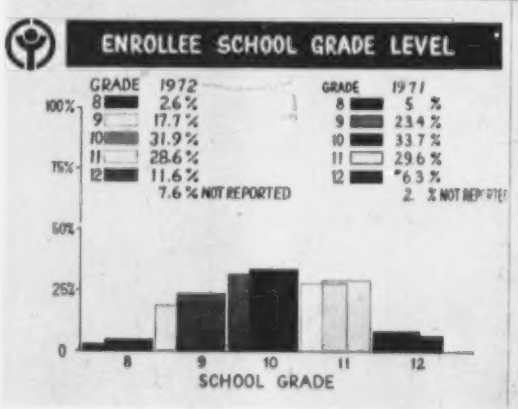

CHART NO. 4

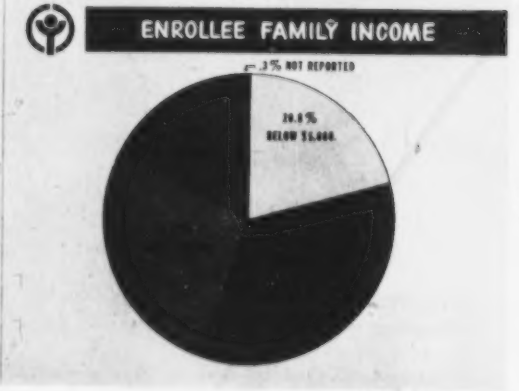

CHART NO. 5

PERCENT OF ENROLLEES WHO STAYED IN PROGRAM VIS-A-VIS DROPOUTS

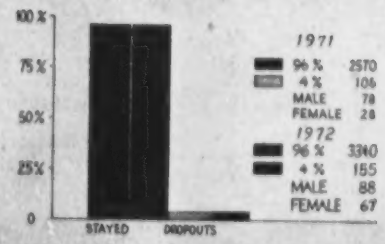

CHART NO. 6

WHERE THE ENROLLEE COMES FROM

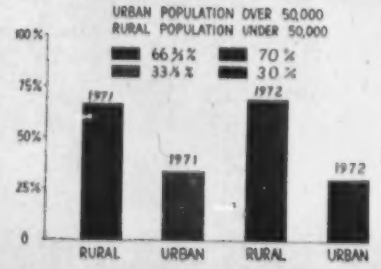

CHART NO. 7

YCC PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENT BY PROGRAM ELEMENT

CATEGORY	WORK HOURS	APPRAISED VALUE
WATER. SOIL CONSERV.	68.343	$ 290.387.
TIMBER MANAGEMENT	47.106	174.426
REC. DEV. / MAINT.	152.891	645.649.
VISITOR SERVICE	43.573	208.475.
RANGE MANAGEMENT	20.812	121.360.
WILDLIFE	59.983	239.924.
ENGINEERING CONST.	144.148	554.952.
FIRE CONTROL	7.379	27.530.
OTHER YCC PROJECTS	114.463	439.909.
	658.698	$2.702.612.

CHART NO. 8

YCC PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENT

OVERALL STATISTICS

	1971	1972
TOTAL NO. OF YOUTH	2.676.	3.495
TOTAL COST OF PROGRAM	2.423.000.	3.409.000
TOTAL DIRECT COST	359.000.	420.363
TOTAL VALUE OF WORK ACCOMPLISHED	1.762.000	2.702.612
TOTAL YOUTH WORK HOURS	497.000.	658.698
AVERAGE YOUTH WORK HOUR BENEFIT	$ 3.55	$ 4.10
COST BENEFIT	73%	79%

Statement of
Dr. Donald L. Crews
Associate Professor of
Wood Science and Technology
Department of Forest and Wood Sciences
Colorado State University
and
Director
Camp Poudre
Youth Conservation Corps
Fort Collins, Colorado
Before the
Senate Interior and Insular Affairs Committee
July 26, 1973

Mr. Chairman:

I am Dr. Donald L. Crews, Associate Professor of Wood Science and Technology of Colorado State University. For the past two summers I have served as director of Camp Poudre, a Youth Conservation Corps Camp located on the Colorado State University Campus in Fort Collins, Colorado. This camp is funded by the Bureau of Reclamation.

My presence here today is to support the amendment to the Youth Conservation Corps Act of 1972 expanding the Youth Conservation Corps from its pilot-program status to a full-fledged permanent conservation program. My appearance stems from a firm conviction based on my personal experiences with these young people that this program can help achieve two important goals: creates the opportunity for understanding and developing an appreciation of the nation's natural environment and heritage and to further the development and maintenance of the natural resources of the United States by the youth--upon whom will fall the ultimate responsibility for managing these resources for future generations.

In support of S.1871, I would like to relate some of my own personal experience and feelings relating to the Youth Conservation Corps program. One of the keys to the success of this program is the great diversity in the backgrounds of the young people that participate. In his statement from the Congressional Record of May 23, 1973 Senator Jackson said "When you isolate the economically or socially disadvantaged in special programs you merely isolate them from society and in turn deprive them from the opportunity to share in the common goals and purposes of our nation." I can only second this statement 1000 percent. This, I believe, is the reason behind the unqualified success of the Youth Conservation Corps as compared to the somewhat marginal means of the Job Corps. The Youth Conservation Corps is not a program solely for the disadvantaged, but is open to young men and women of all social, ethnic, and economic backgrounds. In our program we have several young people whose parents annual income was less that $5000, but we had a couple of others who parents annual income was in the neighborhood of $40,000. But you take these youngsters out of their home atmosphere, put them two to a room, have them sleep in the same kind of bed, feed them the same kind of food, and give them the same kind of work, I have observed that within a week or 10 days, that you cannot tell what their economic background is.

A different and, I guess somewhat unique, aspect of our camp in Colorado this year is an attempt to accommodate in our program several handicapped youngsters. The benefits for physically handicapped youngsters in a Youth Conservation Corps camp are many, are unique, and may be summarized in the following statement:

1. The benefits of camp living are psychological as well as providing a mechanism for building up the individuals general and overall physical health.
2. The YCC experience may help to alleviate the isolation that a handicapped child may feel through the summer months. In addition it will aid in personality growth and social adjustment. Actually, for the handicapped youngster the YCC camp would have the same objectives as for the non-handicapped youth, e.g.
   a. healthy work and play activity
   b. development of new interests, skills, hobbies, independence, self-reliance, leadership, and responsibility
   c. it offers an outlet for feelings of aggression
   d. it helps improve the home situation by relaxing tensions that have built up
3. Recreation is even more important for the handicapped than for normal persons, since his opportunities for play are limited. The YCC camp would also enable the youngsters to feel enjoyment and a sense of accomplishment.
4. It gives the handicapped youth a chance to come into close contact with people, to cooperate, to respect authority and to consider others.
5. Physical care and treatment of the handicapped child often are so engrossing that personality development is often neglected. Personality is developed through work, play, social activities and relationships such as those found in

camps. Over the long haul, camps such as YCC can assist the handicapped youngsters in becoming a responsible self-directing adult.

There is one thing I probably ought to clarify at this point. I am not advocating YCC camps solely for handicapped youngsters. The primary reason for this is because there is a dire need for handicapped youth to share work and play experiences with non-handicapped youth. Integrated camps offer a rare opportunity for handicapped and non-handicapped youth to relate in a real world situation. Many school systems separate the handicapped and the non-handicapped through special education, special schools and separate classes. This is not what the handicapped child needs. Quite the contrary; the handicapped youngster needs more experience in relating to non-handicapped peers before the school experience ends and the need for further edcuation or employment is necessary. This is the basic idea behind what we are attempting this year.

We have two handicapped youngsters in our YCC program this year, a 15-year old girl with cerebral palsey and a 16-year old boy who has been on crutches since he could walk. In the six weeks our camp has been running, the changes in these two youngsters has been nothing short of remarkable. The girl, who was on tranquilizers when she came to us has cut her dosage by about 75%. The boy, who was pretty much in a shell when camp started is now out-going, laughs a lot and what he does on those crutches almost defies description. He works, swims, and the second week went on a 3-mile hike. Needless to say, I am elated by what I have seen this year in our pilot program and am very excited about increasing the number of handicapped youngsters in next years program.

In closing I would like to relate a short story of an incident that occurred last summer. I dropped in on the corpsmen one evening as I usually did and there in our lounge I noticed a group of students seated around a table playing gin rummy. There was a Japanese-American girl, a Black boy, a White boy, an Indian girl and a Chicano boy playing cards, laughing, joking, and having a good time. As I walked out of the room with two of my counselors, one of them remarked that he sure would like to know what happened to people when they became more mature--where all of the suspicion, mistrust, and hatred came from. The other counselor remarked that after seeing the kids in there, perhaps there was hope for us after all. I think I'm with him. Come to think of it--maybe that is a good part of what YCC is all about--working together for a common goal; a better environment.

In summary let me say that since my association with Colorado State University 10 years ago, the Youth Conservation Corps is one of the most exciting and rewarding experiences I have ever had. Based on the tremendous success of the three-year pilot program I urge you to vigorously support the necessary appropriation to expand and make permanent the Youth Conservation Corps.

AMERICAN FORESTRY ASSOCIATION,
Washington, D.C., July 24, 1973.

Senator HENRY M. JACKSON,
Chairman, Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR JACKSON: The American Forestry Association wants to be on record in support of S. 1871, to expand and make permanent the Youth Conservation Corps. We supported this program both at its inception and its later extension. Now we would like to see the Youth Conservation Corps given permanent status and expanded in size.

The basic purposes of a Youth Conservation Corps remain valid but now have been proven in pilot projects. Our nation's youth, especially ages fifteen through eighteen, have great difficulty finding summer employment. Yet, this is the time when idleness can mean trouble but when motivation can lead to the development of productive citizens. Many useful careers in conservation began with the Civilian Conservation Corps in the 1930's and 40's. The educational value alone probably would justify continuation of the Corps. Yet, the added conservation benefits make the project even more desirable. There is already much tangible evidence of constructive project accomplishment. Protection, development and enhancement of the nation's natural resources for greater public use and enjoyment is the added bonus of a Youth Conservation Corps.

S. 1871 contains additional benefits which should make the Youth Conservation Corps even more attractive. I refer specifically to the use of Corps facilities for environmental/ecological education camps during periods of non-use by the Corps program and extension of the Youth Conservation Corps on a matching grant basis to the States. Both are highly favorable additions to the program and have our support. Whether 30% of appropriated funds should be made available to the States or whether it should be more or less can be answered only by time and experience under the program. However, cost-sharing up to 80% with State projects appears to be a reasonable federal amount that should stimulate State participation.

We urge favorable Committee action on this legislation.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM E. TOWELL,
Executive Vice President.

MARYVILLE, TENN., *June 25 1973.*

Hon. HENRY M. JACKSON,
U.S. Senate,
Washington, D.C.

SIR: I was a member of the Y.C.C. program in the summer of 1971. Even though I was only able to attend three fourths of the full time, I found the experience rewarding both mentally and physically. The educational experience prompted me to enter the College of Forestry at the University of Tennessee.

The closeness to nature that the program allowed me to experience is something I will always cherish. It taught me the need for stronger conservation measures and the need for an American conservation epic, that will insure future generations sites where they can be one with nature in their own ways. It is unfortunate that many of today's leaders are blind to the need of a permanent program of this type, that will allow all youth to experience the good, beauty, and needs of the out of doors. Some summer these men should attend a Y.C.C. camp, so these men can experience the urgent needs of America's out of doors.

I support the program wholeheartedly and feel it should be expanded so every American, in the future, could attend a Y.C.C. camp, and experience the problems and beauty of the wild.

Very truly yours,

SAMUEL DAVID BROCK.

MEDFORD, WIS., *June 26, 1973.*

HENRY JACKSON,
U.S. Senator.

DEAR MR. JACKSON: I have just received your appropriation to the President of the United States concerning the YCC program. I would say that this program means more to me than any other single experience I have encountered. I will admit that I applied for work in the program in the spring of 1972

because I wanted to get away from home for awhile. I am grateful that I was accepted into this program because like you indicated, I was able to meet kids unlike myself, especially from different ethnic backgrounds, as I come from a northern, rural town. I learned what it was like to be on my own at sixteen years of age. Our program was tremendous, situated in an old job corps center near Clam Lake, Wisc. We had tremendous recreational facilities, excellent food, and fine leadership. I would go back there now for no pay at all. Maybe I am an exception to the rule, but I love my country, respect the flag, and enjoy freedom. But our country is in sad shape, because many youths don't believe in it anymore. We need an outstanding wave of nationalism to counterattack this present feeling towards our government. I feel that through youth oriented programs, there may still be a chance for American democracy. But it would be foolish to stop the program at the field of conservation if your appropriation is accepted. There must be other skills among our youth.

Given the chance, this country's youth is capable of mastering anything an adult can do. Conservation must be the top priority, though. The problem with our youth today is not that they have too much money, but that they have too much time and nothing to pride themselves in. The YCC accomplishes these two goals. I am a Nixon man. But if Mr. Nixon would spend the money that he spends on weed control, gardening, plants, tree removal, remodeling of his home in San Clemente, helicopter expenses, (all paid for by American taxpayers) we could expand the YCC program. The sum of these property improvements is $1.3 million. Just think of all the kids that could benefit from this wasted money. Somebody must sacrifice so that others may benefit, and the President of the United States should set an example!

Respectfully submitted.

DAVID KLINNER.

JUNE 30, 1973.

COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS,
U.S. Senate,
Washington, D.C.

(Attention Senator Henry M. Jackson).

DEAR SIRS: I received a copy of the Congressional Record Vol. 119-Wednesday, May 23, 1973-No. 78. About making YCC, Youth Conservation Corps permanent.

Sirs, I participated in it and would recommend to every young American to participate in it once in their life. It will be the most memorable experience in their life. They will come away from it not only with conservation knowledge, but more mature from the experience.

Sirs, I came away from camp feeling like not only had I learned about myself, but that I had learned about other people. I found out what my capabilities are as a person and feeling more aware of life.

For these reasons I have stated sir, I feel very strongly that it should be made permanent.

Sincerely,

JANET JOHNSON.

JULY 2, 1973.

DEAR SENATOR JACKSON: Happiness consists of having not of being; not of possessing, but of enjoying. These words, to me, give an idea of what the YCC is doing in today's society.

In today's society, where people are so concerned with themselves and materialist possessions thank God there is a program such as the YCC.

The youth belonging to the Harpers Ferry YCC have so many challenges facing them. We are concerned about having a place to go for enjoyment and for an educational field trip. Why, do people want to destroy the only chance we have to enjoy what, we as Americans, should be so proud of?

The answer is so simple. They crave the praise they can gain from other people. Not so, with the YCC members. We care not for the praise we may gain from other people only for our own satisfaction, which is knowing that we have helped the world to be a better place for mankind.

This is why the YCC Program should and has to be continued. Do you want to wake up one morning and have no place to go for enjoyment. I don't and as a future voting citizen, I shall do my best to make the world a better place for

future generations. The government, too, can lay an important part in the betterment of America by supporting the YCC.

Thank you so very much, Senator Jackson, for the time and effort you have given to try to make the YCC a permanent program. If at any time I can help you with the program please let me know. I have been privileged and honored to be in the YCC for two years. Believe me, those past two years have been the happiest years of my life.

Thank you.

ZETTA WEA[illegible]EY,
Youth Leader, Harper[illegible]erry YCC.

GROSSE POINTE PARK, MICH.,
July 8, 1973.

Senator HENRY M. JACKSON,
U.S. Senate, Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SIR: I was very pleased to hear of your introduction of Senate Bill 1871, concerning the Youth Conservation Corps. I have written both of my senators and my representative telling them of my support of the bill and urging theirs.

Last summer, I worked at the Clear Lake YCC camp in Michigan's Hiawatha National Forest, and I consider it as being one of the most valuable (and enjoyable) experiences of my life. I was asked to go to a Congressional hearing in the Detroit area last July, to speak about YCC, but unfortunately this hearing was cancelled. I wish I could put into words now how strongly I feel about this program, but it is hard to put it down on paper. I agree with the University of Michigan study, which concludes that gains in understanding and awareness from one's YCC experience are equal to one full academic year of study in a normal high school setting. The many things we did and saw, and especially the varied people I met and got to know, caused me to change many of my previous prejudiced attitudes, and expanded my emotional and intellectual outlook.

I hope you can make some sense of what I have written above. I hope that S. 1871 is passed so many others can experience what I have.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

MARY JO KENNEDY.

JULY 11, 1973.

Hon. HENRY M. JACKSON,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR JACKSON: I was in the Youth Conservation Corps last summer in Alta, Utah. It was a very worthwhile experience. I learned many useful and interesting things about conserving the land and protecting the environment. Furthermore, I enjoyed making a new hiking trail and planting trees as a few of our projects. I also learned more about living and working with other people.

I think it is a very worthwhile program. It gave me an appreciation for the natural forest's beauty. Most importantly I learned to think about what can happen to the environment in the future and what I can do to preserve it.

I support the amendment you are proposing for an expanded and permanent Youth Conservation Corps.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

DEBBIE SMITH.

TACOMA, WASH., *June 26, 1973.*

Hon. SENATOR JACKSON,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR JACKSON: In regards to the Congressional Record of May 23, 1973, I would like to extend to you my enthusiastic support of the Youth Conservation Corps and all that it represents.

As a participant in the 1972 YCC program at Camp Rimrock, Washington, I found the program to be a most worthwhile experience and a definite asset to our nation's environmental state. I learned not only about my state's lands and resources but I also found at the end of the summer that I had grown. Living with forty-eight of my peers taught me cooperations, respect, and independence. I am very sure that all fifty participants grew to become more aware of their country and of their nation.

Also, I'd like to point out that the YCC program has improved our camping and recreation areas. Last summer we built dams, replaced fences and spent one week in the high country moving campsites. All these projects were completed in a very short time and all were done well.

I've already mentioned some of the reasons that I feel the YCC program should be extended, if not made permanent, but I might also add that this program gives jobs to teen-agers who would otherwise be jobless. The learning experience gained in a YCC camp cannot be detailed here or anywhere, I only hope that others may share in the experiences I did.

I urge you, Senator Jackson, to continue your loyal support to the Youth Conservation Corps Act and to pursue it, to see that the nation and its youth may continue to benefit from the YCC program.

Thank you for your concern and attention.

Sincerely,

MOLLY ELLIOTT.

JUNE 25, 1973.

DEAR SENATOR JACKSON: I hope my letter reaches you in time and you will pass it on to your colleagues and in turn they and you will listen to my voice. I was employed by the State Forest Service in the Youth Conservation Corps for two summers in a row. First, as an enrollee in 1971, and finally as a Youth Leader in 1972. Though I can no longer be a part of YCC because of the age limit, I'm still very much a part of the program and I support it very strongly. Not only did it provide employment for me for a period of time, I also learned a great deal, not only about conservation and forestry but, about myself and my fellow workers. YCC is a growing and learning experience that leads to pride and love for the program. Since YCC, I have found myself at a loss because I am to old to be in it but I intend to return one of these years to become a Work Leader.

I support YCC because I have seen it work and have felt the pride in accomplishments that we have achieved. To discontinue or cut the program would be senseless and in the long run a disastrous mistake. If one of you could spend a week, a day, or an hour with the people in YCC you would understand why there is so much pride and enthusiasm in the program. It provides an endless opportunity for the youth of today to understand and help rebuild the damage that we have done to our forests, streams, lakes, deserts, and wildlife. I will continue to support the Youth Conservation Corps in any way that I can. Please continue to keep me informed about the future of the program. Thank you.

Sincerely,

LINDA MINKEL.

MCLAUGHLIN, S. DAK.,
June 29, 1973.

SENATOR JACKSON: Thank you for a copy of your letter of May 23 concerning the continuation of Youth Conservation Corps.

As a former YCC worker in northern South Dakota, I would like to see your bill passed.

The summer that I worked in the program was a very rewarding summer indeed. The work that we did I enjoyed very much and I'm sure it influenced my decision to go into the field of wildlife and conservation. But my benefits were greater than to work with people your own age and of different races was truly sensational. I matured a lot in the summer that I worked. I realized that color does not and should not have any influence on people, that all are equal.

I give you my backing for the continuation and permanence of Youth Conservation Corps. I commend you for your work and wish you success. Thanks.

Sincerely,

DENNIS STUGELMEYER.

JUNE 25, 1973.

SENATOR JACKSON: I want to thank you very much for sending me a copy of the Congressional Record concerning your introduction of S. bill 1871 to expand and make permanent the Youth Conservation Corps. Since I was a corpsman last year in the program, I know very well the enjoyment and education the corpsmen receive (not to mention the advantage of having a job). I also know the great amount of work that is done to improve the environment. I think that the YCC is one of the best government programs around for young people. The corpsmen take a great amount of pride in what they are doing because they realize how needed their service is. Working so closely together, many friendships are started that will last as long as it is remembered.

I think perhaps the greatest good that comes from belonging to the YCC is the education you get not only learning how to get along with people, though that is very important, but becoming knowledgable about the environment and nature and man's place in it.

I whole-heartedly support your bill and I hope it becomes law. Just to help a little I have written Senator Frank Church and asked him to support it and as soon as I finish this letter I will also write to Gov. Cecil Andrus and ask him to support it also. I hope it helps.

I applied for the YCC because of my concern for the improvement and protection of the environment and natural resources. My interests are mainly in wildlife though, especially predators and birds of prey. I personally would like to see a program like the YCC working under the Fish and Game department like the YCC works under the forest service. It could be very useful in doing many of the jobs the F & G "need done but lack the manpower to do them."

It could work on the same basis as the YCC only doing work like taking wildlife population surveys, or gathering information on certain species of which little is known, or working in fish hatcheries, or just anything else that needs to be done. A program like this could have the same advantages and be just as important as the YCC in educating young people, providing employment, and getting needed work done. And with two of these programs, twice as much would get done and twice as many people reached. But this is just an idea and needs to be developed and planned. If you think it would work maybe you could get it started.

Sincerely,

SUE SHELLENBARGER.

JUNE 23, 1973.

DEAR SENATOR JACKSON: I hope that this letter reaches you. I would like to thank you, Mr. Randolph, and Mr. Magnuson for your efforts to keep the Youth Conservation Corps program alive.

I have been in this program last year and I have just finished my first week of the second year. This program has meant so much to me and still does that I get very depressed at the thought that this program could die in 1974.

I feel that this program is the answer to many of the problems the American youth faces today. I wish I could go in front of Congress to testify to them that this program means so much to me and many other youths that have participated in Y.C.C. It is time America wakes up to realize that our natural resources must be protected and used in the proper ways. I wish all of the people in America could be educated to realize the importance of not only this program but the importance of our natural resources also. So please, tell me what I can do to help keep Y.C.C. alive.

Your friend and proud enrollee of Y.C.C.,

RANDY HAUSLE.

JUNE 26, 1973.

SENATOR JACKSON: I have just received a copy of the Congressional Record concerning the bill to amend the Youth Conservation Corps Act of 1972.

I very much appreciate your sending me this, as I still have a great interest in the Y.C.C. program. After being involved in YCC's Camp Wood last year I applied for the job of counselor this year. However, as I expected I was told I was too young. But after experiencing a beautiful thing like that you just can't let it go. You have to try one more time.

I can't really put into writing the things that the YCC program gave me. I will try though, because I would like you to know that we, the youth, do appreciate what you are doing for us.

When I first arrived at Camp Wood I was a litte afraid. You see, I had never done anything like this before. I was never much of an extrovert, always being rather uneasy around people I didn't know. My natural impluse was to hold back, stay on the sidelines. Wait for people to come to me. Yet from the first day I arrived I realized that I couldn't do this. Here were fifty new people, most of them strangers to each other, waiting to be friends. You either went out and made friends, or you didn't. And I did.

Living for a month with other people my age helped me to understand them. I learned that most of them felt just the way I did at first. A little afraid, apprehensive, but very much willing to be a part of it. And we were a part of it. We knew that we were learning about our environment in a way that would never be possible in a school biology class.

We were out there, in the field, working together toward something we all wanted. We could be proud of ourselves, knowing that every day we were making a piece of the world just a little better. And at the end of the day, when we counted blisters and compared bruises, that too was with a certain pride, because we knew that we had not been blistered and bruised in vain.

Senator Jackson, I have tried here to tell you of my feelings toward the Y.C.C. And I can safely say that those are the feelings of many of my friends who participated along with me.

I am sure that you know that I will thoroughly support a permanent Youth Conservation Corps program, and I will do anything I can to help this idea become a reality.

I woul like to thank you, not only for myself, but for those thousands of young people who have participated in the Youth Conservation Corps program everywhere. You have changed our lives.

I only wish I could personally meet with you and exchange ideas, for I think that I would come away with an even gerater awareness of what needs to be done to save our land and our people. Again, much thanks for all you've done.

JANET MILLARD.

FORT COLLINS, COLO.

DEAR SENATOR JACKSON: As a second year participant of the Y.C.C., I can briefly state that it has been the most versatile and educational program in which I have ever been involved. I have been exposed to more environmental education during these 16 weeks than I received throughout my entire high school education. This program impresses on young people the importance of man's role within an ecosystem, and stresses the urgent need of expanding the Y.C.C., and programs like it if our world is to survive. The Y.C.C. has changed many older people's opinions of youth, and reassures them that their country will be placed in the hands of conscientious and well educated leaders.

Through the Y.C.C. I have become more of an individual, and I realize that my thoughts and beliefs are a major factor to the continued welfare of our country. The Y.C.C. has forced me to develop an aware open mind, and to realize that there are more than two sides to every problem to be considered. It is obvious that most people just talk about things they want done, but they aren't willing to work toward these goals; due to the Y.C.C. I have become and shall remain a "Do'er" because nothing much ever comes as result of a "talker."

Thanks for your time.

Miss ROBIN STEELE.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT,
Grand Junction, Colo., August 2, 1973.

Hon. FLOYD K. HASKELL,
U.S. Senate,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR HASKELL: This is the second year for Grand Junction to have a Youth Conservation Corps Camp. The program has been very successful and a very satisfactory one for both the youngsters serving in the program and the

staff members. Locally we have had good publicity and a fine reception from the public, and particularly the parents of the youth serving in the Corps. The local Bureau of Land Management Office staff has been very cooperative and a great deal of work has been accomplished.

Last year's program returned a $1.15 work value per $1.00 spent. The preliminary assessment of this year's work projects indicates an even better return for monies spent. In our experience, the program is carrying its own weight financially and yet we have found time to engage in a number of worthwhile educational activities. Because of the size of this District, we are involved in quite a bit of travel from Grand Junction to the individual projects and we feel that the nonresidential camp structure should be maintained for this camp. A sister camp in Montrose is a resident camp, working primarily on trails and campgrounds in the high country. We recently spent a week at Camp Red Devil Recondo School near Fort Carson, Colorado, as guests of the Army, to give our youth survival training. We find, in visiting between the two camps, the same enthusiasm and sense of accomplishment in all of the youngsters and staff members.

To the local taxpayer who knows about our program, this is a very good investment of our tax dollar. Many favorable comments have been received concerning the amount of work accomplished and the conduct of the enrollees. Being local students, they become very rapidly involved in telling the community about the YCC and what it is doing. We feel that this is the kind of advertising money can't buy. There have been many comments from the public asking why the program is not expanded to handle more youngsters. In my own opinion, this would be good but I feel it would be better to first establish more camps across the Nation and then expand the numbers in the camps, once a working framework has been established.

It has been my pleasure to work with this program these two years and I am proud to be a part of it.

Sincerely yours,

HARLAN R. GOODNER,
Director, Camp No. 504,
Youth Conservation Corps.

U.S. YOUTH CONSERVATION CORPS,
CAMP POUDRE,
Fort Collins, Colo., August 1, 1973.

Hon. FLOYD K. HASKELL,
U.S. Senate,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR HASKELL: Enclosed are a number of letters for you to pursue as you deliberate—the fate of the expansion of the Youth Conservation Corps.

Dollar for dollar the Youth Conservation Corps is unquestionably one of the finest programs benefiting youth to come out of Congress in the past two or three decades . . . possibly ever. The YCC camp experience is one that will mark these young people for years to come. Many other youth should be afforded a similar opportunity. The work they accomplish is truly remarkable and will be around for others to see and use for years to come.

I wish you would pay particular attention to the letter from Ron Barnes. It epitomizes the true spirit of what YCC is all about. As director of a camp, the experience has been a memorable one. I sincerely look forward to hosting a camp on our Campus once again next summer. Please count me among the many enthusiastic supporters of expansion of the Youth Conservation Corps to a permanent conservation program.

Sincerely,

DONALD L. CREWS,
Camp Director.

AURORA, COLO., *August 1, 1973.*

Hon. FLOYD HASKELL,
U.S. Senate,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR HASKELL: Please place this letter on record as testimony for the Youth Conservation Corps Bill S. 1871.

Last year I visited Carter Lake and this year Horsetooth Reservoir here in Colorado, and I am very favorably impressed with the work being done by

the Youth Conservation Corps. They are making significant improvements and additions to the much needed recreational facilities, and at the same time they are improving and protecting the environment.

I have talked with some of the youths and with their leaders, and I'm convinced that what the Corps is doing for the youths is even more valuable than the physical facilities they are producing. The Corps is producing a bank of very conservation minded young people, which in the near future is going to be very important to this nation. Also the Corps is helping to destroy many prejudices. These youths of various races, creeds, economic and ethnic backgrounds are living and working together with little if any apparent difficulties.

The preservation of our natural (and human) resources is important for esthetic reasons, but in the long run it is essential for the survival of the human race. I believe the Youth Conservation Corps is a big step in the right direction.

Sincerely,

FLOYD W. ALLEN.

COLORADO SPRINGS, COLO., *July 29, 1973.*

HON. FLOYD HASKELL,
Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

SIR: This letter may be entered for the hearing record.

I am on the Youth Conservation Corps this year, and I've only been on it for six weeks and I don't have a year or two to look back on the program with more experience or insight.

I think in another year or two I will appreciate even more the experience of participating in the YCC.

I think that this summer we've accomplished a lot in work, growing up, and appreciation for the natural environment of the forest. I never realized before how much it takes to clean up a campground, or to plant ten thousand trees, or even to keep a trail from being washed out by years of rains. I also realize now how little things that each person could do would really cut down on the upkeep work.

On YCC this year I earned money that I need. I am learning a lot about plants and animals, something I tried to get a course about in my high school, but couldn't. I've also been able to work outdoors, and that was really great after nine months in school.

But the program's true value is even more than this, I think. I work with six other girls every day—one crew leader and five crew members—and sometimes with the other girl crew or one the boy crews. While we work together on the same project with the same end we really become close friends. I was on teams in school, but this is so much better because there isn't different classes to worry about. We are a team working together on everything, and that's more than I got out of two years of high school. I know I'm going to miss the kids, supervisors, and the work.

I've gotten a lot out of YCC, and I think the program should continue to provide the experience for other kids. I feel very lucky to have been chosen to participate in it.

Sincerely,

BARBARA RUDD.

NEWSOM HALL,
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY,
Fort Collins, Colo., July 31, 1973.

HON. FLOYD K. HASKELL,
U.S. Senate,
Washington, D.C.

HON. FLOYD K. HASKELL: I would like to voice my opinion in support of the Youth Conservation Corps for the congressional hearings. I am a crew leader participating in the Y.C.C. pilot program at Camp Poudre in Fort Collins and am also a senior forestry student attending Colorado State University. I am very enthused about the Y.C.C. program and believe that it is an extremely beneficial program for today's youth.

While working with Y.C.C. for the summer, I have seen how the program has helped thirty teenagers from all walks of life learn to live together to try and build a better society. Camp Poudre has a well balanced program of environ-

mental education and work projects sponsored by the Bureau of Reclamation who has assisted us in every way possible.

I would like to see the money appropriated for the Youth Conservation Corps so that this program can grow in size to help many other youths. The Y.C.C. pilot program has been a huge success and I wish to see it continue.

Yours truly,

DONALD H. GILBERT,
Crew Leader—Camp Poudre,
Youth Conservation Corps.

YOUTH CONSERVATION CORPS CAMP,
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY,
Fort Collins, Colo., July 31, 1973.

Senator FLOYD K. HASKELL,
U.S. Senate,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR HASKELL: As the Environmental Specialist and Asst. Director of the Fort Collins Youth Conservation Corps, I believe the YCC is one of the best programs in operation for young people today.

One of the most important aspects of the program is that it allows our young people to learn about the environment through active participation—not just talking about it. It also gives them an opportunity to become involved in community projects and to develop pride in their surroundings.

For many of these tennagers the YCC has provided their first living and sharing experiences with someone other than their family. Socially, these kids have adapted beautifully to spending 24 hours a day with people of different ethnic and socio-economic backgrounds and, in our case, with handicapped youngsters.

I am completing my second year with the Fort Collins camp and can honestly say I have never been more excited about an environmental program than I am about the Youth Conservation Corps.

I strongly urge the passage of Senate Bill 1871 to expand the Youth Conservation Corps to a full-scale permanent program. Please include this letter in the official hearing record.

Sincerely,

JAMES A. SMITH.

DENVER, COLO.

Senator FLOYD HASKELL:
Capitol Hill, D.C.

We, at the YCC in Rocky Mountain National Park wish you and the committee well in your endeavor to make permanent the YCC program. It's ability to draw young people to a better awareness of themselves, or their relationships with others and the solidification of an intensity to discover their natural environment alone makes this program worthwhile. The above normal work productivity here, is attributable to the pairing of the environment and the unity of these 30 individuals toward making Colorado a better place in which to experience and grow, personally. Corps members will be sending letters soon.

Best regards,

RON WALTERS,
Director, Youth Conservation Corps.

DEAR SENATOR HASKELL: The Youth Conservation Corps is a very useful and important program. It allows us young people to do something for the environment: to get involved. We can work hard for something we believe in, when afforded the opportunity. Y.C.C. is the perfect opportunity to work for the environment, and learn from it too.

I have enjoyed my summer with Y.C.C. and want others to share the same experience. As an enlarged program, more people can make it even more successful. I feel Y.C.C is well qualified to be a permanent government program.

Sincerely,

LYNN LOPEZ,
Camp Poudre, Fort Collins.

SENATOR HASKELL: I would like to add my own feelings about the Youth Conservation Corps. I am of the opinion that this program offers more opportunity for helping the environment than any other I know of. Of course, this is biased, but well founded I believe due to my involvement. We have constructed trails, built barriers to stop the desecration of automobiles on the grass, and steps to halt rampant wandering of people. It seems sad that we have to take the responsibility of controlling people, but until some other form of education which will effectively teach the populace the importance of environmental quality is found, it remains the only manner in which to save our countryside.

Along with this optimism, it is important to add a bit criticism. I think a bit more of thought should go into the projects before we undertake them. As an example, we removed trees from a virtually virgin forest to place around outhouses. When asked about this, our leader agreed that it could not be justified, but that it was an order from the hierarchy of the Bureau of Reclamation, the agency for whom we work. Therefore, a bit of thinking by the Bureau of Reclamation is needed, and along with this, it would be a better program if the Corps members could be allowed to choose the projects they feel are worthwhile. If this is not possible, then the opportunity to reject those which are not right should be offered. With this chance, the members would get the feeling of total involvement.

All in all, the program is a success in my opinion, but a few changes are in order to make it still better.

Thanks for your time.

REX WELSHON,
Camp Poudre, YCC.

JULY 27, 1973.

FLOYD K. HASKELL,
U.S. Senate,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR HASKELL: I would like to tell you how valuable I feel that the youth conservation corps program is. As a participant in the 1973 YCC, I would very much like to see the program continued in the future.

The very fact of living in the mountains for two months has given me a lot that I would not have gotten in Denver this summer. I have done a lot of things I maybe never would have, and the doing has increased my self-confidence, and also my capabilities.

I also think that the learning that is going on here is a very important, but too-rare kind of learning. This is a "learn by experience" situation. Doing something is 100 times worth reading about it. Not only the work—trail building, fence building, but also much about people. There are 20 completely different people my age here who have to live and work together for 2 months. I have come in contact with, and learned to accept many new and different ideas and people, that I might not have for several years if I were not up here. I have also learned, by doing, and mistakes, much more about working with a group, and group co-operation.

I should also mention, that now I am about 1,000 times more ecologically concerned, and knowledgable than I was. I have more understood what "ecology" involves, and what I can do. I have also learned that there is a lot more involved in land management and environmental protection than I thought, and that corporations, lumber and oil companies, and consumers have to be held in mind as well as environmentalists.

I have tried to tell you some of what I think Y.C.C. has done for me. I would never be able to list everything—all I can say is that it is a very valuable, very unique experience. Everyone who lives and goes to school in the city should have a chance to live and learn in the mountains.

Sincerely,

APRIL LAMPINEN.

JULY 26, 1973.

FLOYD K. HASKELL,
U.S. Senate,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR HASKELL: Each of us at the Indian Creek Youth Conservation Camp were very pleased to find your letter waiting for us yesterday when we

went in to Gunnison for mail and fresh food. Mail is a vital factor here at our camp since we get in to town so seldom. It is a thirty four mile drive and news such as this is indeed gratifying. We are extremely pleased to learn of this legislation to expand and make permanent the YCC program.

This week finds our program in its sixth week with only two more weeks to go. We each personally feel that we here at Indian Creek can give some sound and valuable information about the YCC program, especially residential programs such as ours.

First, let us fill you in on some of the facts about our program here:

1. This is a Coed Group made up of ten gals and ten guys and five staff.
2. This is a residential camp where all facilities had to be hewn out of the wilderness area from the bottom up by the enrolees and staff.
3. Both the base camp (elevation 9300 ft.) and the high camp (elevation 11,200 feet) were planned and developed by the participants. At base camp-a permanent base—the youth helped to build tent platforms for all living quarters, including mess hall, storage tents and shower. They helped develop and maintain a water system, shower system and laundry facilities. They are responsible for the planning and cooking of all meals—and what good meals! ! They have built a recreational area, ecologically sound paths and cleaned up an area which was a lumbering mess.
4. Since we are 240 miles from Denver, no one goes home until the program is over—unless one is ill of course. So far we have had no losses of enrollees or staff and feel strongly there will be none.
5. Each participant is earning 10 hours of high school credit besides his or her work on BLM projects, doing group and personal camp chores.
6. The youth have set up activities for relaxation, such as, checker, chess, volley ball and dart tournaments.

Several of the youth commented that they would like to write a personal note to you so we staff members will add our impressions and leave the rest up to them.

Of the several youth programs which this staff has participated during our teaching careers we have never found a more stimulating and meaningful experience—to both the youth and to ourselves—as we have found in this YCC Program.

In these past weeks we have seen these youth mature in attitudes toward work, toward one another and towards themselves. They have become a close nit group and they are far more sensitive to the immediate and future care of the environment. More actual learning has occurred in our opinion, than any teacher in a classroom could even hope for—learning that we feel will be remembered and will be useful to the individual and to society in the days to come.

We are having "Open House" here at our camp on the 4th of August. We wish that you and all of the Senate Interior Committee could be with us. Seeing the youth in action, what they have done, what they are doing and what still needs to be done would do far more to convince each of you about the importance of passing bill, S. 1871 than anything we can say here.

If any of you could come, just let us know and we will meet you in Gunnison and the youth will take it from there.

We sincerely hope and pray that the United States Senate does not sell our youth short. These young men and women have great potential if we but give them the right kinds of opportunities. They are our future and our greatest resource.

We do want to thank those who made it possible for us to be a part of this pilot YCC program and please believe us when we say—you did not waste your money or your time in this key endeavor.

If there is anything we may do to help bill, S. 1871 to be passed, please let us know.

Sincerely,

KENNETH J. MILLS,
Camp Director.
FRANK H. ONO,
Camp Environmental Specialist.
NANCY CLARY,
Group Leader.
FELIX LANDAU,
Group Leader.
KATHI KROMROY,
Group Leader.

JULY 30, 1973.

DEAR SENATOR HASKELL: I am presently employed as a member in YCC, and heard you were interested in hearing what we've been doing. Well, we went up Barr Trail one week, worked on campground clean-up, searched for bark beatles, and planted thousands of trees. We walked Colorado Trail and figured out various historic spots. Our crew has a special job to do every Friday. We drive up to Monument and go to the salt and mineral licks and count the cracks, then we record them. I've really enjoyed the program because I have become very much aware of our environment, and may continue a career in Forestry. We also have a educational field trip every two weeks, which is very interesting.

Sincerely,

JANISE FOX,
Colorado Springs, Colo.

P.S. Please enclose this statement in the hearing record.

DENVER, COLO.

DEAR SENATOR HASKELL: As a member of the Youth Conservation Corps in Rocky Mountain National Park, I am very pleased that you are taking an interest in the opinions of the participants.

The program is based on a great idea, permitting teenagers to actually do something in conservation work, while living in the mountains. The set-up at Camp Hallowell is a structured yet versatile program, which has the ability to adjust to the unforeseeable occurrences and the desires of the group. We have our weekends free to backpack or to use at our own discretion.

While a four week course allows more people to enjoy this opportunity, I personally prefer an eight-week program. This gives enough time for everyone, especially people who are not outgoing to form strong friendships and to benefit from 29 other human beings in a way that usually isn't possible in the world today. I'm also in favor of the residential camps where you live with, eat with, socialize and really begin to depend on and support your fellow corps members.

I have heard it will be a state-wide selection in the future. Again, this gives more a chance to enjoy this experience, but I believe once friendships are formed they should be given a chance to continue. People who are separated by distance tend to grow apart, to lose what they had in common. If, however, as in our program at Camp Hallowell, participants are chosen from the same geographical location, where buses run and schools compete, the bonds developed aren't as easily severed.

The age limit set up is quite appropriate. While maturity is not defined by years, adolescents too young or those with college experience would not benefit as much from this program.

These can be eight important weeks in a young adults development. I think the staff should be picked with this in mind. Our camp director is a great example of what to look for in a person who is going to head the staff. He is capable, personable; sensitive to and interested in the nuances of the individuals and the camp in general. He is eager to support the participant's suggestions, yet wise enough to lead.

The group leaders should be geared to the problems young adults have to face, but mature enough to be someone to talk to, a helpmate, possibly a counselor, to those who need it and want it. We were lucky to get three outstanding men.

I have thoroughly enjoyed this job and it is with sadness that I see the approaching end of it.

Thank you for your concern.

Sincerely,

KATHY FALKENBERG,
Youth Conservation Corps 1973.

You may use this letter as you see fit.

JULY 29, 1973.

DEAR SENATOR HASKELL: I am employed by the Forest Service this summer and am in the Youth Conservation Corps program. I thought I would write to you and tell you how I feel about this program. Working outdoors is just great! I love it. Many more teenagers should be given the opportunity to do what I am doing. I'm interested in forestry and thought that this job would help me make up my mind about it as a career.

Some jobs we have done are: trail maintenance, tree planting, campground cleanup, bark beetle tree tagging and building picnic tables. My crew has been doing a project on white-tailed deer and their habits by observing their salt licks once a week. My crew also spent a week on the Barr Trail on Pikes Peak doing trail maintenance. For the remainder of the program, my crew will be learning how to control mistletoe on trees.

Another exciting project all the crews did was a survey experience for the proposed Colorado Trail. This is a very much needed trail and I'm glad that the YCC got to pioneer some of the work for it. As a backpacker, I am especially interested in this project.

The YCC program is just excellent. I hope this letter has helped you understand more about it.

This is my first job and now I'm probably spoiled for any inside job! I really like working outside. Thank you for your time.

Respectfully yours,

LAURIE ROE,
Colorado Springs.

DEAR MR. HASKELL: I have participated in the YCC at Fort Collins for 2 summers now.

This program has taught me a great deal about the environment, management of that environment, and my role in the cycle of life. It has taught me to appreciate the beautiful mountains on our backpacking trips. My love of these remote areas has been my inspiration behind my work. It is terribly important to me to preserve these areas.

I am also learning about the 35 other people I live with. I have become a little more open-minded and a lot more understanding.

Most of all—this program has given me direction. It has given me a purpose. As a result, I am much more happier with myself. I have gained much confidence in myself and it has given me something to belong in.

There are 5 of us that got to come back from last year's camp. Three out of those 5 will be freshmen next year and those three are all majoring in forestry.

I hope that this program is continued.

Thank you.

PAM HORINO.

MRS. BRUCE C. PATON
260 NEWPORT ST.
Denver, Colo., August 2, 1973.

DEAR SENATOR HASKELL: Please support Sen. Jackson's proposed bill to expand the Youth Conservation Corps, which would benefit 150,000 young people next summer. It's an excellent program, both for the young people as well as our national resources.

Sincerely,

PAT PATON.

JULY 31, 1973.

DEAR SENATOR HASKELL: I've been a Youth Conservation Corps crew leader for two years now and would like to express my thoughts on the program. I think it's been a good experience in environmental education as well as a practical experience in living and working with people, for myself as well as the crew members. The high school young people I've worked with have always left the program with many positive thoughts about their environment and good memories about the program in general.

I would appreciate it if my thoughts would be placed on the record in hopes that the appropriate money is allotted to future Y.C.C. programs.

Good luck.

Sincerely,

BONNIE BUTZMAN,
290 Newsom Hall, Camp Poudre, Y.C.C., Ft. Collins, Colo.

HONORABLE SIR: I am writing to you about the Y.C.C. program which I am a member of this summer. I know this is the last trial season, and I would very much like to see the program continue.

As far as I know this is the only job I know of that is run on an education basis. This program has given me a better understanding of my environment. I feel that while a person in this program helps the country he also helps himself. It makes me feel responsible to do whole tasks with people my own age that serves a very worthwhile purpose. I also think that you really don't know the meaning of the word "Ecology" until you work with the environment, and I feel the program can give you this. I couldn't possibly say enough about the program so I will close the letter now. Thank you very much for your time.

Truthfully yours,

ERIC OCHSIE.

JULY 29, 1973.

DEAR SIR: I would like very much to express my deep concern over the Youth Conservation Corps program. I am a member of the Corps this year and I have found it to be one of the most rewarding experiences of my life. Since starting this program I have found myself becoming more concerned about our natural environment. I am seriously thinking of going into forestry as a career, but even if I don't I'll always have a better understanding of the government services that protect and develop our beautiful country. If there is any way I can help continue this program please let me know because I am behind the YCC 100%.

Yours truly,

OSCAR (SANDY) MOONEYHAM,
Pikes Peak YCC Camp, Colorado Springs, Colo.

JULY 29, 1973.

DEAR SIR: My name is Pam Pratt and I am an enrollee in the Youth Conservation Corps. I feel that this job not only prepares the participant for future work, but also gives him the opportunity to view the large range of jobs available in Park and Forestry management. I am surprised at the large amount of work and manpower required for the establishment and upkeep of our national forest land. For this and the reason that I hope more people can enjoy a summer job in the YCC, that I urge you to put in a vote and good word for the continuation and expansion of the YCC program.

In this job, I have learned not only to work with others, but especially to understand and appreciate my environment. I have learned well my position and responsibility in the ecological cycle.

One high point in the program was our inventory of Colorado Trail System. I enjoy being able to express ideas and seeing them positively applied.

My only regret in the program is that more people cannot yet enjoy it. If others could learn about our environment as I have, maybe the public as a whole will take better care of our National Parks and Forests.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

PAM PRATT,
Colorado Springs.

DEAR U.S. SENATORS: The Youth Conservation Corps offers many opportunities for working outdoors and learning about the environment for young people like myself. I have enjoyed working for YCC and we have accomplished a lot. However, sometimes the learning aspect of conservation is overlooked. We built dams to form fish ponds but no explanation of how the fish community would benefit is given.

Also, sometimes more research should be done before we start working. For example, we needed trees to put by the outhouses at Horsetooth Reservoir. We dug up some trees from the edge of a meadow to plant in a very arid, hot, smelly place. If we wanted to give the trees the best chance of surviving, we should have gotten them from a somewhat similar climate. Right now, we are repairing stairs built last year at Carter Lake because they were built before the fill dirt settled. The program would improve if more explanations were given about how we were helping the environment with our projects and if more research was done before we started our work. This is essential to me as a worker because then I can have pride in my work and tell others about it. These are changes you can make in the program before making it permanent.

The best things we have done are building picnic sights, trails and fences so that people can enjoy Horsetooth Reservoir and Carter Lake without damaging the environment. Also, after the fourth of July, we picked up trash.

I hope you will pass the bill to expand YCC and give other kids the chance to work for the environment.

Sincerely,

MELINDA L. MOON,
YCC Member, Camp Poudre No. 73.

JULY 30.

DEAR SIR: I have participated in the Youth Conservation Corps this summer. It has been a tremendous experience. I have enjoyed learning about the environment and improving it. It is neat to be able to look at a fence or a picnic area and know that you made it with your own two hands.

The greatest part about this program is that kids from all different social and economical backgrounds work together. We found that there really is no difference between us. We are all in the job together and are having a super time doing it.

The vast majority of America's teenagers are hard workers. The Youth Conservation Corps gives us a chance to demonstrate it. I truly hope you will expand the program.

Sincerely,

VIRGINIA HERBERT.
Camp Poudre, Fort Collins, Colo.

DEAR SIRS: I really think that the YCC is a great program. It has really given me a chance to experience great opportunities and meet new friends. This means a lot to me because I'm crippled. I've lost the use of both legs, but in this program I'm treated like anyone else, not expecting or receiving any sympathy or pity. There are plenty of jobs that I've found I can do, and I feel as if I am working for every penny I earn. I think others like me, who have led sheltered and restricted lives, should be given the same chances I have. This summer I've realized that I'm no different than anyone else and I shall never forget my summer with the YCC.

Sincerely yours,

RON BARNES.

DEAR SENATOR: I have just recently heard of your bill concerning the Youth Conservation Corps. I would like to thank you very much for the letter to our YCC camp. Actually I am rather surprised that there is any question as to if the YCC program is to continue. Why should not a program that helps educate youth and at the same time is good for the people and the environment be put out of existence? This is one of the few government programs which I can think of that has had visible good results in its first years.

Thank you for your concern and efforts regarding the YCC.

Sincerely,

W. TIMOTHY FOLEY.

JULY 29, 1973.

DEAR SIR: I would like to express my feelings concerning the Youth Conservation Corp program. As a participant, I feel that it is extremely worthwhile to accomplish something that is useful and constructive and to know that it is helping our environment. As an individual, it lets you set goals for yourself and see them come true. A lot of serious thinking on my part has gone into the jobs I have worked on. This summer has really helped me find my true self.

Besides the good results of YCC work, there is another important side to the program. This is the fact that everybody is treated as an equal. There are no racial advantages or disadvantages. Everyone finds himself in the same problems and enjoyments as everyone else and it is really great to share the experience together.

The Youth Conservation Corps is a learning experience in so many ways. I have found that it is generally unknown to the public and it needs to be more

well known in order to obtain public support for the expansion of this program. To strengthen America's youth and to clean up our environment are two good reasons that the YCC should be continued to a greater extent.

Sincerely,

SUE GRIFFITH,
Camp Poudre, Colo.

JULY 30, 1973.

DEAR SIR: I am writing on behalf of the Youth Conservation Corps in which I have been a part for two summers.

Since this is the last summer of the pilot program, I felt an urge to speak up.

I believe YCC should be continued, because of the opportunities involved for young people across the United States. I believe it is a good program because the time is now to educate the people of the United States about our environment and our limited resources. A good way to do this is to start with the young.

There are people in this camp who before participating in YCC were not educated about the environment, but I feel during the program they have gradually become aware of our situation. Now, they think twice about throwing trash or anything else on the ground. They learned to appreciate the beauty of our land through field trips, working, and backpacking.

It gives them an opportunity to decide if maybe they would like to adopt a profession where they would continue to help fight for a cleaner environment. There are so many ways or fields to enter that would be helping our environment. YCC educates.

Having participated for two years I have experienced a unique group of young people. They come out of the program a little more grown-up, opinionated, educated, etc. It seems to form their minds. The camp consists of different economic and racial groups. We all learn to live together. The camp gives an opportunity for the YCC participants to know different and live with different economic and racial groups.

Our work, I feel, is helping the environment. People must be trained to protect the land. So we have trained them without their knowing about it. Making trails, picnic sites, putting in barrier posts restricts the people, but this is needed in order to preserve our land.

The earth is in danger of contamination. We must fight now to preserve it. I feel part of that fight can be accomplished by continuing YCC.

Yours truly,

GERRI STUDY,
Denver, Colo.

NEWSOM HALL,
YCC CAMP POUDRE,
Fort Collins, Colo., July 30, 1973.

DEAR SIR: At present I am participating in the Youth Conservation Corps program. Realizing that this is the last of a three-year pilot program, I would like to encourage a continuation of the program in the future. The corps builds independence, confidence in self, and awareness of all aspects of our world.

Words cannot really describe the beauty of the program, nor is "disappointment" adequate to describe the feelings of many young people if the program is discontinued.

Sincerely,

ANNETTE CLAYCOMB.

U.S. YOUTH CONSERVATION CORPS, HARPERS FERRY

STATEMENT OF HERB MARTIN, PROJECT MANAGER

The Youth Conservation Corps has been, for me, a high-point in my life's experiences. While I have always believed our Nation's Youth had much to offer if asked, these past three years of our YCC Pilot program have been an inspiration and eye-opener for me, to the point of near-shock. The talents, dedication and improvements made to the many difficult projects accomplished has revealed the greatest potential ever for solving not only our national conservation needs but solutions to many of our world-wide situations. The benefits and successes have far exceeded my wildest hopes and are realized only because each enrollee gave

individually of themselves far more than the compensations required. I'm very proud to have been associated with these representatives of our Nation's youth and a part of the NEW FRONTIER for our Nation.

In the summer of 1971 something began in Harpers Ferry. Conceived by Congress and initiated by the National Park Service in conjunction with the Jefferson County Board of Education, the Youth Conservation Corps was born.

The first year the program consisted of 20 young people and three adult supervisors. They were given a set of lofty ideals and momentous work projects and in eight weeks they all became a reality.

The YCC has seen many changes in the past years; each year gaining a firmer grasp on the jobs at hand.

The YCC has developed the concept of making a personal commitment to conserve and preserve our environment. In that fashion, more people are influenced each year by being in the YCC and YCC members.

After an initial experience with the YOUTH CONSERVATION CORPS, enrollees find that the YCC has become a permanent part of their life. Many past YCCers have kept in touch with the program to see its progress and communicate their own.

1971

Gayleen Shiley Boyd is presently a clerk/typist for the Branch of Museum Operations at Harpers Ferry Center. She began this job while working with the YCC and was later hired on a permanent basis.

Mike Busey returned to the YCC last summer as a youth leader with the metal preservation team. This fall he will be a junior at Jefferson High School.

Robin Clinton will be attending Shepherd College with a major in history this fall. In 1972 she was employed at Mather Training Center as a library assistant, an off-shoot of her 1971 YCC experience. This year she is involved as an information-receptionist in the National Park Visitor Center.

Luther Daniels is now enjoying a European tour. He graduated from Jefferson High School and will be attending Shepherd College. Luther was with the YCC last year as a youth leader and photographer.

Debbie Coffin Engle is a newlywed housewife. She graduated from Jefferson High School this year.

Jeff Harris has attended West Virginia University and Shepherd College. His future plans are undecided.

Janet Lewis attended Shepherd College and is presently studying nursing at Union Memorial Hospital in Baltimore.

Debbie Minor was a youth leader with the YCC in 1972. This summer she is spending her time preparing for college.

Darrell Penwell is presently employed by the IGA Market Manor. Since his graduation, he plans to go into some kind of conservation wor kand join the fire company.

Dottie Perks is a Drama-Journalism major at West Virginia University. She became a group leader with the YCC in 1972 and is back with the program this year.

Jim Pitcher was back with the YCC last year as a youth leader. This year he is a park interpreter with the living history program.

Jenny Sue Smith is the only YCC enrollee to be with the program for all three years. Jenny will attend Shepherd College this fall.

Claudette Strange is majoring in Elementary Education at Shepherd College.

Michael Wiltshire was a youth leader in the Metal Preservation unit last year. Because of his experience, he was hired as a museum technician with the Harpers Ferry Center.

1972

Michelle Bush is a Senior at Jefferson High School.

Brian Cooper is attending Jefferson High School.

Gilbert Dodson attended West Virginia University and is presently working on a horse breeding farm.

Alice Green will enter West Virginia University this fall. She is presently employed as a clerk for the Silco Store in Charles Town.

David Hamrick is now employed by the state road commission.

Jan Henshaw is a park interpreter with the Harpers Ferry Living History Program. The YCC gave her an initial interest in the NPS and she plans to be a curator of a Natural History Museum.

Gloria Herring is presently making hats for the clothing shop in Harpers Ferry, a skill she acquired while working with the YCC.

Teresa Jenkins plans to be married this summer. She is presently employed by the Winchester Memorial Hospital.

Jim Jones' future plans include finishing his high school education and attending college.

Michael Lotz graduated from Jefferson High School this year and will be attending Shepherd College in the fall.

Jeral Milton, a nursing major at West Virginia University, became interested in the Park Service while working with the YCC. She is employed this summer as an information-receptionist with the Harpers Ferry National Park.

Valerie Owens is an English major, journalism minor at Shepherd College. Through the YCC she became involved in the Park Service and is presently working with the Harpers Ferry living history program.

Jeff Sager is a youth leader with the YCC this summer. He will be a freshman at Shepherd College with a major in forestry.

Steve Smith is functioning as the YCC and park photographer this summer. He will be attending Furman University this fall.

Debbie Sutton, a youth leader with the YCC this summer, plans a future in the National Park Service.

Scot Whetzall is employed by the maintenance staff this summer and will attend Shepherd College.

1st Class Corpsman Robert Wyler is studying for future work as a Marine Mineral Engineer.

Joan Van Tol, a group leader with the YCC this summer, has attended Chatham College and will enter West Virginia University this fall.

STATEMENT OF SUSAN KNOTT, CAMP DIRECTOR

Welcome to Homecoming 1973!

In the third year of the pilot program of the Youth Conservation Corps, Harpers Ferry has again experienced a different and exciting summer. Under the expert guidance of our Project Manager, Herb Martin, new and varied projects have been developed. At Harpers Ferry the enrollees have been mired knee deep (?) in murky, mucky waters clearing the old Patowmac Canal so that interpretation of this area may begin next spring. In addition to this major undertaking the enrollees have removed litter from Pipertown road, painted picket fences, stained rail fences, assisted with Summerset (summer in the parks for exceptional children), worked with the museum operations at Shipley School and rehabilitated many trails.

The spike camp at Manassas was again in operation for eight weeks. As usual, it proved to be the most popular experience of the summer.

On July 25 one of the highlights of the summer was experienced by the Harpers Ferry YCC when they attended a hearing on Senate bill 871 to make permanent the YCC program. Even though Senator Henry Jackson, chairman of the Interior and Insular Committee, assured the support of his committee there is feeling in Congress that the Youth Conservation Corps should not be made permanent at this time. Testimony favoring the expansion and continuation of the YCC was given from three YCC participants. Harpers Ferry was represented very ably by Dottie Perks who has been with us since the inception of the program. If you believe that indeed the YCC should be granted permanent status, I am sure that a letter to your senators and congressmen would be most helpful.

We urge each of you to view the work sites and ask questions about present and future plans of the Harpers Ferry YCC. Guides have been assigned for this purpose.

The YCC experience has been for me the most rewarding youth activity that I have been involved with in my career. My faith in the talents and dedication of today's youth has been renewed many fold each summer. I look with pride on the accomplishments of former YCC members and hope that your experience with us has been both worthwhile and memorable.

STATEMENT OF DOTTIE PERKS, GROUP LEADER

The Youth Conservation Corps is important to all of us, yet each members' feelings are unique.

The YCC gave Brian Cooper the opportunity to meet new people and develop lasting friendships. For Robin Clinton, the YCC has opened doors determining her career. Claudette Strange feels the YCC was a mind-expanding experience. The YCC taught Terry Walker to do his share and get along with other people.

Through the YCC, Jim Jones feels he developed responsibility and leadership typified by his famous expression, "Calm down sir, I have the situation under control," in dealing with emergencies with park visitors.

Michelle Bush feels the YCC is important in that it opens peoples' eyes to the necessity of saving our world.

According to Darrell Penwell, the YCC has helped restore faith in our nations youth.

So, we see that the YCC is many things, important to the individual enrollee as well as the whole of the United States.

In my three years with the Youth Conservation Corps, I have seen it progress from a group of 20 individuals, to a highly efficient organization with earth-shattering aspirations and astounding accomplishments. I have seen young people rise to the occasion to meet any challenge, even when success is not guaranteed.

I have learned to cross social, economic, and age barriers to work together for a common cause, the preservation of our nation.

Most important, the YCC has taught me to work as a group with my own self-interest sublimated. In our highly technical society it is very easy to slip into a course of self-preservation. The YCC has given me something much more important for which to work. It has made me realize how much needs to be done and a means by which I can help.

The satisfaction of a job well-done and making a meaningful contribution to a national effort makes all the toil, sweat and frustration worthwhile.

DREXEL HILL, PA., *August 27, 1973.*

Mr. LAWRENCE WILLIAMS,
House Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN: As a recent enrollee of the Youth Conservation Corps Camp at the Lamar National Fish Hatchery (Lamar, Pa.) I am writing this letter to tell you what a tremendous program I think Y.C.C. is. I eagerly welcomed an opportunity to spend a summer up in the mountains amidst bountiful natural resources of forest and stream.

The on-the-job knowledge I accumulated this summer has made me environmentally conscious as well as very appreciative of the natural environment. I learned things which I value more than my high school education—how to live with people, more understanding of the plant and animal life found in woods and waters, know-how to better survive in the wilderness, skills from the wide variety of work projects, in addition to an awareness of the fate of our environment and of contributions I can make to aid preservation of it. Weekend expeditions—camping, backpacking, a raft trip, and visits to other Y.C.C. camps were an added bonus.

I could continue to detail what a worthwhile and interesting experience the *Youth Conservation Corps* has been for me . . . and the other 23 also involved at Lamar, but that is not the primary purpose of my letter. I strongly urge you to support any legislation that will continue and/or expand the Y.C.C. It is a wonderful opportunity for this nation's youth to be employed in a most beneficial manner.

The only suggestion I have is that the recruiting areas be enlarged. They are too restrictive now to allow the variety of participants which is necessary to make the program most satisfactory. (I am referring to residential camps only).

Thank you for your time and attention.

Yours truly,

NAOMI E. ARONSON.

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